

Hafa Adai!

JP Sablan, Tebuteb to contest
SNILD chairmanship. » **PAGE 2**

Inos, Torres cancel trip to
Tinian inauguration. » **PAGE 5**

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXV, Issue No. 10

THURSDAY JANUARY 15, 2015

www.saipantribune.com

75¢

No fuel on Tinian for 3.5 hours

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Mobil gas stations on Tinian ran out of fuel yesterday for almost four hours, causing some customers to get upset as the island had many visitors for the inauguration of Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas.

Saipan Tribune learned that Tinian Fuel and SN Five, the only two gas stations on the island, stopped selling gasoline starting at 11am due to the lack of supply.

The two stations, however, resumed selling gasoline at 2:35pm after Mobil Oil Marianas Tinian plant delivered fuel.

See **FUEL** on **Page 4**

PSS moves forward with Koblerville gym

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System will remain as the sub-recipient of the Koblerville gym, according to Northern Marianas Housing Corp. deputy corporate director Jeannie P. Mafnas.

After nearly three months of waiting for clarification on whether or not PSS would stay as the gym's sub-recipient, Mafnas disclosed yesterday that NMHC is now content to move forward with PSS.

"They decided to become the

sub-recipient of the gym. So what we're going to do now is wait for its completion," Mafnas said. "We will work with PSS to ensure that the gym is put into use."



Mafnas

She said there was a lot of "waiting time" because Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan wanted to consult with the Board of Education and other stakeholders regarding the project. Mafnas said

that Sablan contacted NMHC late afternoon yesterday.

"We didn't have to identify an-

See **PSS** on **Page 4**

ON DIVERT AIRFIELD PROPOSAL

Inos relieved Air Force has no final decision yet

By **MARK RABAGO**
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Those opposed to the U.S. Department of Defense's proposal to locate the divert airfield on Saipan can heave a sigh of relief after U.S. military top brass, led by Joint Region Marianas commander Rear Admiral Bette Bolivar, assured Gov. Eloy S. Inos Tuesday

that the U.S. Air Force hasn't made a final decision on the sensitive issue.

The governor, along with Lt. Gov.

Ralph DLG. Torres, met with Bolivar, Marine Corps Forces Pacific executive director Craig Whelden, Pacific Command Strategic Planning and Policy director Maj. Gen. Michael Dana, and Pacific Air Forces

See **INOS** on **Page 4**

» **EIS pushed back to April**



MOVING DAY

MARK RABAGO

Rep. Anthony Villagomez's (Ind-Saipan) staffer, Luis Cepeda, walks past the furniture, stack of binders, and other stuff of Rep. John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan) yesterday as the House of Representatives continued its transition where representatives move in and out of rooms as designated by the new leadership. Sablan is moving to Rep. Edmund Villagomez's (Ind-Saipan) office.

INSIDE



NATION

Two climbers scaling a sheer granite face in Yosemite are almost near the top.

» **PAGE 16**



ASIA

Pope Francis presses his call for Sri Lankan unity and reconciliation.

» **PAGE 17**



LIFE & STYLE

"Transformers: Age of Extinction" leads the Razzies' 'worst-of' list this year.

» **PAGE 20**

GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: **235-6397**
235-2440

FAX: **235-3740**

EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com



YOU COULD WIN AN
XBOX360



When you pay your IT&E Bill on or before the 15th.

CLICK TO PAY NOW

www.ite.net

Local

JP Sablan, Tebuteb to contest SNILD chairmanship

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Now that the House of Representatives leadership has been finally resolved, the next question would be who will be the next chairman of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation.

Expected to duke it out for the position are 18th House SNILD chair Rep. Ramon A. Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan) and Rep. John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan).

Sablan has already made known his intention of vying for the local legislative delegation's chairmanship after begging off from taking any committee chairmanships from the newly formed coalition between House Speaker Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero's (Ind-Saipan) independent bloc and vice speaker Rafael S. Demapan's (R-Saipan) GOP representatives.

"The reason why I don't have

any chairmanship is because I'm vying for the SNILD chairmanship. Me and Tebuteb are trying to get numbers," he said.

Following coalition lines that vaulted Deleon Guerrero and Demapan to leadership positions in the 19th House organizational session last Monday, Sablan seems to have the majority as he can count on the votes of 11 representatives as well as all three Saipan senators, including Sen. Justo Quitugua (Ind-Saipan).

"Justo might follow suit," he said.

For the record, the coalition representatives expected to vote for Sablan for the SNILD's top post include Deleon Guerrero, floor leader George Camacho (R-Saipan), and Reps. Antonio Sablan (Ind-Saipan), Francis S. Taimanao (Ind-Saipan), Felicidad Ogomoro, Angel Demapan (R-Saipan), and Leepan T.

Guerrero (R-Saipan).

Aside from Quitugua, the Saipan senators Sablan expects to go to his side are Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) and Sen. Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan).

Asked what he thinks of his chances for the SNILD chairmanship, Tebuteb sounded resigned to his fate of losing the post.

"The Republicans want everything! That's the direction they want..."

The eight who supported Tebuteb for speaker are also expected to vote for him as SNILD chairman and they are Reps. Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), Ralph N. Yumul (Ind-Saipan), Anthony T. Benavente (Ind-Saipan), Roman Benavente (Ind-Saipan), Larry Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), Edwin Propst (Ind-Saipan), Vinson Sablan (Ind-Saipan), and Blas Jonathan "B.J." Attao (Ind-Saipan).

Committee assignments set

The office of Deleon Guerrero also officially released the appointments of chairmen and vice chairmen of House standing committees yesterday.

The chairman of the Committee on Commerce and Tourism is Guerrero with Angel Demapan as vice chairman, while the Committee on Education will be chaired by Ogomoro with Taimanao as vice chair.

Ogomoro and Taimanao would also serve as chair and vice chair of the Committee on Health and Welfare.

Angel Demapan will head the Committee on Federal and Foreign Affairs with Rep. Edwin Aldan (Ind-Tinian) as his second.

Rep. Glenn I. Maratita (Ind-Rota), meanwhile, will be chairman of the Committee on Judiciary and Governmental

Operations, with Taimanao as vice chairman.

Aldan and Guerrero will chair and vice chair the Committee on Natural Resources, while the Committee on Public Utilities, Transportations, and Communications will have Taimanao as chair and Antonio Sablan as vice chair.

Antonio Sablan retains his chairmanship of the Committee on Ways and Means with Ogomoro as vice chair.

"With an 11-member leadership, we kind of brought the committees to what it used to be. Health was one committee and Education and Welfare was another in the 18th. Well, before it used to be Health, Education, and Welfare and since we don't have enough people in the leadership, we put it back where it was so there are now eight committees. Commerce and Tourism we split it up in the 18th but it's a bare

minimum now, it's a simple majority so we merged the committees now," said Deleon Guerrero in explaining how the committees were divided up.

The speaker also announced that he has already appointed an ad hoc committee to review the House rules.

"What we adopted on inauguration day are interim rules. There will be changes on that. I've appointed the floor leader [George Camacho] to be the chair with Rep. John Paul Sablan and Rep. Tony Sablan to be members of that ad hoc committee."

He said the interim rules were really meant only to set the rules for inauguration.

"Now then whoever the leadership that comes in normally reviews the rules for the House. This is standard practice, you have an interim rule for inauguration, then you have the House rules for the rest of the term."

Disbarred lawyer Quichocho, wife appeal to 9th Circuit

Disbarred lawyer Ramon K. Quichocho and his wife, Frances, are appealing to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit the federal court's judgment holding them liable to pay \$2.4 million in damages to businesswoman Jung Ja Kim.

The Quichochoes want the Ninth Circuit to reverse the entry of judgment signed by U.S. District Court for the NMI clerk of court Heather L. Kennedy on

April 3, 2014.

Kennedy issued the entry of judgment after a federal court jury reached a unanimous verdict on March 28, 2014, holding the Quichocho couple and his law firm liable to pay \$2.4 million in damages to Kim.

The Quichochoes also want the Ninth Circuit to reverse U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona's order issued on

Dec. 15, 2014.

In that Dec. 15 order, Manglona denied the Quichochoes' motion to issue a judgment in their favor notwithstanding the jury's verdict in Kim's racketeering lawsuit against them.

Manglona ruled that because the Quichochoes' motion was untimely filed and that the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure circumscribe the court's discretion to ex-

tend deadlines for judgment notwithstanding the verdict or new trial motions, she will deny the motion.

The Quichochoes filed a joint notice of appeal and representation of statement in court on Tuesday.

Attorney Michael W. Dotts is counsel for Frances in the appeal, while Quichocho is representing himself. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

Strong winds seen to diminish tonight

Based on the information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, and compiled at the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management, trade winds of 20 to 30 mph with gusts around 40 mph are expected to continue into today, Thursday.

A wind advisory remains in effect until 6pm today.

These winds are being caused by the strong pressure gradient between Tropical Depression 01W several hundred miles to

the southwest of Guam and a strong high pressure moving off of Japan. The winds will gradually diminish today.

The public is being advised to take precautionary/preparedness actions. Winds this strong can make driving difficult, especially for high profile vehicles such as a truck with a shipping container on it. Use extra caution. Bring small loose items indoors. Take down canopies and awnings that are susceptible to wind damage. **(HSEM)**

NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING PROGRAM

Babies learn from the time they are born. One of the ways they learn is through hearing. When a baby is born with hearing loss, many sounds and voices are not heard, and the child's speech and language development can be delayed. CHCC implemented newborn hearing as a standard of care and all babies get their hearing screened shortly after birth.



Ask if your baby passed the test. If you have concerns or your baby needs follow up call 236-8709.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Printing funded by the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Grant under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Service Administration.



Saipan Air opposes separate trial for liability, damages

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Air Inc. is opposed to Swift Air executives Jeffry Conry's and Boris Van Lier's motion that asks the federal court to separately try the issues of liability and damages in Saipan

Air's lawsuit against them.

In Saipan Air's opposition filed yesterday in the U.S. District Court for the NMI, attorney Steven P. Pixley asserted that neither judicial economy nor the balance of prejudice supports the exceptional course of separating the trial of the two issues.

Pixley said bifurcation would deprive Saipan Air of the ability to present its claims, which derive from a common set of facts, in an organized, coherent fashion.

The lawyer said that, as detailed in its first amended complaint, Saipan Air's fraud

claims against Conry and Van Lier are grounded upon a common set of facts.

"Compelling Saipan Air to present its claims in a piecemeal fashion would waste the time and resources of the parties and the court, and result in a redundant presentation of identical or

similar evidence thereby causing Saipan Air considerable prejudice," he said.

Conry and Van Lier, through counsel Michael White, asked the court to bifurcate or separate the liability and damages phases of the trial scheduled for Feb. 2, 2015.

White argued, among other things, that the issue of liability for the alleged fraud is separate and distinct from the amount of damages Saipan Air claims it is entitled to.

Saipan Air is seeking \$2,541,370.78 in compensatory damages and \$10 million in punitive damages.

In Saipan Air's opposition to the motion, Pixley said this case is not complex and bifurcation is not required.

Pixley said allowing the introduction of all evidence to the jury in one proceeding is the most efficient way to proceed.

"Bifurcation will not contribute to judicial economy because it will result in two separate trials," he pointed out.

Pixley said allowing liability and damage claims to proceed together ensures that the parties can engage in an efficient and streamlined trial.

Pixley said punitive damages are available in fraud claims to punish defendants who engage in fraudulent conduct proven at trial.

Last month, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona ruled that

Saipan Air's fraud claim against Conry and Van Lier shall proceed, but not against Swift Air's Donald A. Stukes.

Manglona also granted summary judgment in favor of Conry, Van Lier, and Stukes in Saipan Air's claims for violations of Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act and for unjust enrichment. This means that Saipan Air's RICO and unjust enrichment claims in the lawsuit are dismissed.

The trial will be against the remaining defendants, Conry and Van Lier, relating to the fraud claims.

Conry and Van Lier are currently employed by Arizona-based Swift Air, which emerged from bankruptcy in 2013.

Saipan Air filed the racketeering lawsuit against Conry, Van Lier, and Stukes in July 2012.

Swift Air filed for bankruptcy protection in Arizona shortly after notifying Saipan Air that it would not deliver two 757 aircraft and one 737 aircraft for Saipan Air's program. Saipan Air was unable to sue Swift Air directly because of the bankruptcy filing.

CPA to continue talks with MARFORPAC on proposed Tinian ALP

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Talks between the Commonwealth Ports Authority and the Marine Forces Pacific on a proposed airport layout plan inclusive of the military's aim to build on the Tinian Westfield Airport will continue this month.

According to CPA executive director Maryanna Lizama, the meeting is scheduled on Jan. 29 at the CPA conference room on the second floor of the Francisco C. Ada International Airport. The meeting will include CPA, its stakeholders, MARFORPAC, and Federal Aviation Administration officials, who will probably attend via teleconference, she said.

A time has not been set. The meeting continues the "informal" dialogue began between FAA and military working groups and CPA at a meeting in Seattle, Washington last November.

MARFORPAC would like

New BOE member to provide strong leadership

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Florine M. Hofschneider, the newest member of the 14th CNMI State Board of Education, says her contribution to public schools is her strong leadership.

"In any system like the Public School System, there needs to be a strong sense of leadership at the very top level," she told *Saipan Tribune* after her swearing in on Monday.

"We will continue to focus on the four priorities that we have established. And that is, effective and efficient operations, student learning—but as in any system it will take the entire parts of the mechanism to make it work. So it's very important that all the basic support systems are there to deliver what the community wants us to deliver," she said.

On Tinian, she said, just like any other school, she would like to see student learning continue and the organization provide the necessary support to make it work.

Hofschneider has been described as a "long-time educator" and has been praised by her colleagues. She is a former Tinian Sr. Jr. High School principal. She retired in 2008.

CPA to submit an airport layout plan to the FAA that includes its plans to build a parallel runway, an air traffic control tower, power and waste management facilities, fuel storage facilities, and other infrastructure at the Tinian airport.

Also being considered is an amendment to FAA rules to allow restricted airspace over the Tinian airport to support live fire training there. FAA restricts military activity from 1,500 feet above and below ground level within three nautical miles of airports or civilian use.

"What goes where" and "where do they want things" have to be learned from the military, according to Lizama.

"We have to address that with our concerns" and "look into it to see what the impacts" are, she said.

On the kind of artillery and guns involved with live fire training, Lizama said the military has not "gotten back to us yet" on this question. She said the question was posed at their meeting in November but the military appeared "hesitant to answer."

Right now, she said CPA's position is, "Work with us." And to "sit down and talk details."

She said there was the assumption in the November meeting that the authority the military had in siting their pro-

posed ALP at the Tinian airport was due to rights in a leaseback agreement between the CNMI and the federal government years ago.

But this "needs to be clarified on their side," she said. CPA maintains that the rights to the airport belong to it.

"On our end, the ALP still has to go through CPA," she said.

Marine Forces Pacific director Craig Whelden—when asked if the question of rights have been clarified—said Tuesday that he did not know the answer to this "fully right now without going back and getting some more analysis."

"But what I will tell you is we will work with the Tinian leadership, the CPA, the airport itself, to make sure that we have no adverse impacts on Tinian," he added.

Whelden indicated that military use of the Tinian airport could "bring benefits to the airport that otherwise they would not get through construction of new pavement, and other infrastructure improvements that could be dual use."

For example, he said, fuel tanks could be used for commercial use. "That's why we say to everybody, 'Let the process run its course,' so we can make sure everybody understand what the potential here is."

Whelden said that they are "committed to have no adverse impact on the air traffic between Saipan and Tinian, and so is the Air Force," which looks to have divert activities in the CNMI with only a "few airplanes" like tankers.

He said the additional impact on Saipan, Tinian, or both "would be almost none," but that "the potential benefits with construction for co-use is huge."

When asked about co-use of the airport, Lizama clarified that this would be "special use" in that the military could use the airports but CPA would remain as owners.

"Joint use," on the other hand, would mean the military owns the property, she said.

The proposed ALP and plans for special use airspace are built into the draft environmental impact statement due by the end of April this year. This is part of the National Environmental Policy Act process currently ongoing.

The DOD has proposed two phases for the ALP. The first is an "expeditionary ALP" for a temporary facility from 2016 to 2021. The second is an "end-state ALP" from 2012 and beyond.

Discussions between CPA and the military have been labeled as "informal."

BW CAR RENTAL
NEW LOCATION
in GARAPAN, SUNLEADER BLDG.
Special Rate \$100.00 for 3 days.
FREE Pick up and Drop off Service
287-2727
Mon. - Sun. • 9AM-9PM

LA Vi DUTY FREE
Golden Lion Jewelry
SUPER SALE
UP TO 70% OFF
SELECTED ITEMS
HERE
PASEO DE MARIANAS
SUBWAY
12:30PM-10:00PM Mon.-Sat.




High Technology and Savings
UP TO 50% IN ENERGY SAVINGS

Carrier® the experts in air conditioning, have been cooling the world for more than 100 years.

Our experts always strive to offer you the latest technologies, to keep you comfortable in your home or office. Our new hi-wall is not the exception. It offers the perfect combination of energy savings, with savings of over 50% compared to traditional systems, plus the quality and style distinctive of all Carrier® products.

The unit is quiet, stylish and efficient. It also brings a convenient digital panel that displays the temperature and other programmable functions which are easily set with the unit's remote control.

Experience the cool comfort that the Carrier® Xpower Blue II hi-wall can create in your space.

Features

- Active Carbon Filter
- Turbo Mode
- Sleep Mode
- 24Hrs Timer
- LED Display
- Auto Level Swing
- Condenser with anti-corrosion protection





AdvanceCarrier

HVAC-R • MECHANICAL CONTRACTING

You're ahead with Advance...

Gualo Rai Commercial Center, (along ACE Hardware)
P.O. Box 503139, Saipan MP 96950
Tel: 670-233-2665 / 0210
Fax: 670-233-2100
info@advancecarrier.com
Follow us on Facebook





turn to the experts®
Authorized Dealer

SWITCHING WITH DEMAPAN IN 2016

Speaker: I will honor my word

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

House Speaker Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) said his bloc of independent representatives would honor their agreement with NMI Republican Party representatives led by vice speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan) and that he will indeed slide down to the vice speakership in 2016.

"I will honor my word. I don't want to dwell on other possibilities," he said.

In an unprecedented move, Deleon Guerrero and Demapan's groups came to an agreement the night before

Monday's inauguration and House of Representatives organizational session wherein the former will hold the speakership for the first year and the latter on the second year.

"The agreement was not only will we share the leadership but also the speakership. This is another coalition just like the 18th. The only difference is even the speakership will be shared. That is what broke the stalemate, this idea to share the speakership between me and Ralph, with one serving the first year and the second one will serve the second year," he said.

Deleon Guerrero said aside from the Top 2 posts, the oth-

er positions of the leadership would remain the same after Jan. 11, 2016, which is the agreed upon date that Deleon Guerrero and Demapan would switch places.

"The leadership remains the same and the chairmanships remain the same. The only thing that's going to change is the speaker and vice speaker. Everything else will remain the same."

The speaker also said the House would not be scheduling sessions this week because of the moving of offices.

"Right now the [Legislative] Bureau staff, my staff, all the staff are trying to help get peo-

ple situated. I personally visited the various offices, the minority, all the members that are trying to get situated, making sure that they're being assisted by the Bureau, making sure they have what they need to operate—a desk, a table, chairs, computers, fax machines, phones. Make sure they're getting situated. I've talked to the Bureau staff and asked them to do their best and help the people."

Deleon Guerrero said hopefully when the "transition" concludes then the House can finally start conducting its business, which is to make laws.

"The sooner that could happen, the sooner we can conduct

business and the sooner we can start working," he said.

One of those moving is Rep. John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan), who will transition to the former office of Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan).

"We're moving in we started this afternoon," he said.

Sablan said his staff placed his furniture and other stuff on the House hallway in anticipation of the move. He also denied having problems with Villagomez.

"No problem with Villagomez it's just that his staff was off yesterday. We're in communication actually. Had my staff put my stuff on the hallways but once Mr. Villagomez is ready, we would move in," he said.

Saipan Tribune contacted Vil-

lagomez and the representative said "no comment" on whether he has opted not to move to a new office.

Rep. Ramon A. Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan), meanwhile, said that Villagomez might have a valid point if he decides to keep his old office.

"However, there's also a law that governs that...the law that gives the Legislative Bureau authority over the properties of the Legislative Bureau."

Personally, Tebuteb, who has moved to Rep. Ray Yumul's (Ind-Saipan) room, said he doesn't mind moving to a smaller office.

"The size of the room doesn't really matter to me...it's the one inside the office that matters," he said.

PSS

From Page 1

other sub-recipient because she wrote to us today and actually if we didn't get a decision today we would have probably looked at different options and now we are moving ahead as usual," Mafnas said.

The Koblerville gym's construction is expected to be completed on Feb. 13, 2015, but Mafnas said that may still change.

Although PSS will remain as the sub-recipient, the gym will be open to the general public when PSS is not using it, according to Mafnas.

NMHC bought three lots equaling 60,000 square miles in Koblerville in 2011, for \$1.17 million, using Community Development Block Grant funds, upon which the gym would be built.

A total of \$1.5 million taken from the 2011 to 2012 CDBG funds was given to PSS, according to Mafnas. The funds were used for the land clearing, design, and construction.

The construction started last year between March and April.

In a separate interview, Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* that

they have always been the sub-recipient and they never had made any changes or plans on whether to keep the gym or not.

"We are the sub-recipient and we are moving forward with it," Sablan said.

Reasons on needing a sub-recipient

NMHC and its board members kept pushing this project because there is a requirement that needs to be met under CDBG, including a post monitoring compliance.

Mafnas said that one requirement for PSS is that they have to use the facility as soon as construction is completed and use it within a reasonable amount of time.

If PSS didn't want it, NMHC would have to identify another sub-recipient and that would take a lot of planning and processing to do.

If the CNMI had failed to identify a sub-recipient, funds would have to be reimbursed to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Mafnas said that, if that happened and none of the government agencies reimburse the funds, it would paint a negative perception of the CNMI at HUD.

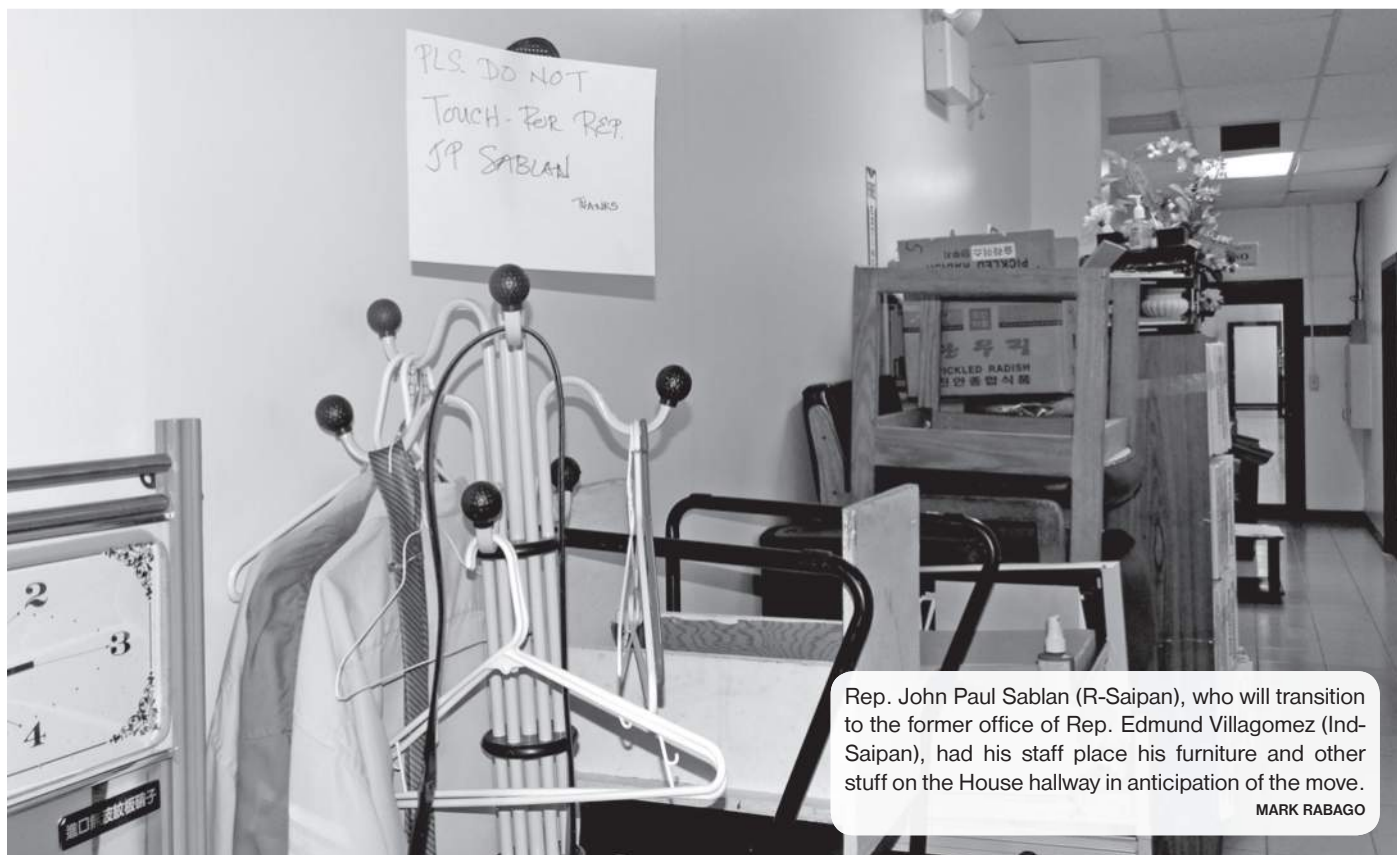
the phone," the staff said in a phone interview at 2pm.

A Tinian businesswoman said the Mobil plant has fuel, but the person who was supposed to sign the papers for delivery went to Saipan and had a hard time coming back because of strong winds.

A gallon of regular gas on Tinian costs \$5.22 on Tuesday and \$5.07 yesterday.

When *Saipan Tribune* called Mobil Oil Mariana plant on Tinian at 2pm, a staff said they were preparing to deliver fuel to the gas stations within an hour.

Saipan Tribune learned that because of strong winds, the inauguration of Mayor San Nicolas was held at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino instead of at Kammer Beach. Many guests from Saipan also failed to attend because of bad weather. *Saipan Tribune* contacted San Nicolas for comment, but he had yet to reply as of press time.



INOS

From Page 1

Brig. Gen. Steven Basham before noon Tuesday at the Governor's Office conference room.

"[We were] operating under some vague—at least from the standpoint of the CNMI—understanding of the various project proposals and so forth and that's why I'm just happy to hear that the work continues..." said Inos while adding the EIS on the divert airfield would probably come out in April.

The governor said his talk with Bolivar and company has given him the impression that any decision regarding the military's use of CNMI land will only be made at the highest levels of government.

"My takeaway from this there is no final decision on these projects and that we expect the process would take its course. Only when all the facts have been presented, with public participation, that a decision would be made but that decision would be made at the highest level."

Bolivar, meanwhile, thanked the governor for allowing the military to proceed with the EIS pro-

cess regarding the divert airfield.

"I so appreciate the governor for allowing us to continue with EIS process. I think it would be beneficial to all of us—both the people of the CNMI as well as the Department of Defense—to be able to do the homework, to get those facts, and proceed with the EIS so we can give the Air Force the opportunity to make an informed decision," she said.

The rear admiral also thanked the governor for providing them a venue to explain to the public that no final decision of the divert airfield has been made.

"The fact that no final decision has been made—and let me clarify that—is absolutely key, so thank you so much for clarifying that and we look forward to pushing forward and working that process with your blessing."

Pacific Air Force Brig. Gen. Steven Basham also reiterated what the governor said that the CNMI government and the military will continue to have discussions on where the divert airfield will be placed.

"The governor said it very well. We've agreed that we'll move together in dialogue but there has been no final deci-

sion and we want to dispel any concern that there's been a final decision. From the Air Force it's our desire to move forward in a collaborative and transparent manner to work toward that someday...I want to emphasize that the EIS is just fact-finding and that's not the final decision. It's always a proposed decision but the final decision, as said by the governor, will come from the highest levels."

Dana, for his part, said having Bolivar aboard certainly helps as the Joint Marianas Command begins to tackle pressing issues like where the divert airfield would be located.

"We made it through a collaborative and transparent process and we picked our best and brightest to be the lead down here. The admiral is a Naval Academy graduate, a diver so she's going to enjoy it here, and she has just great skills because she was a commander in the Northwest Pacific, which is a very important, just like yours is a very important region. I'm sure she will do great things and we're very excited about the future."

The divert airfield is intended to be an alternative landing base

for Air Force planes if Andersen Air Force Base in Guam becomes unavailable because of weather or war.

CNMI officials are unified in their request to put the divert airfield on Tinian, where two-thirds of the island is already leased to the U.S. Department of Defense. DoD, however, wants it on Saipan.

The governor earlier told the Air Force that its request to lease 33 acres of land on Saipan for the next 50 years for a proposed divert airfield "is quite an undesirable conclusion as it would impede future commercial development in the area."

During his inauguration speech on Monday, Inos said one of his first jobs would be to make a formal request to the President Barack Obama on 902 consultations between the two governments.

He said he would ask the President to appoint his representative for the executive-level talks allowed for under CNMI's Covenant with the United States.

Expected to be discussed is a plan by DoD to use the international airport on Saipan as an alternative airfield.

FUEL

From Page 1

Two Mobil Oil Tinian plant employees, who requested not be identified, explained that they failed to deliver fuel to the two stations on Monday because their manager went to Guam and the other staff was on Saipan.

The bad weather prevented the staff from going back immediately to Tinian.

The Mobil Tinian plant regularly delivers fuel to the two stations on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

A staff at Tinian Fuel in San Jose, Tinian, said he does not know why the plant did not deliver on Monday and that there were many customers yesterday.

"People got mad. They're checking and calling from time to time. I'm tired of answering

Inos, Torres cancel trip to Tinian inauguration

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres cancelled their trip yesterday to Tinian to attend the inauguration of Tinian Mayor J.P. San Nicolas due to bad weather. Acting press secretary Ivan A. Blanco said strong winds brought about by a tropical storm that was passing Yap forced the Governor's Office and the Lieutenant Governor's Office to err on the side of caution and cancel Inos and Torres' scheduled flights to the island.

"I want to express the governor and lieutenant governor's regrets for not being able to be with the people of Tinian and the mayor for not being able to join his inauguration. But our staff wants to take precautions. We made preparations to fly to Tinian at 7am and join them at church and after Mass go the inauguration festivities and hear their remarks. But, of course, these strong winds that have been happening [prevented that plan]," he said.

Blanco said the decision to cancel the trip came at around 8pm to 9pm Tuesday night. He said they even called the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Man-

agement to check with them to see if it was all right to fly.

"They told us the winds are going to shift sideways. If the plane was a twin turboprop we'd be more comfortable but they'll be using smaller planes that are single propeller. [So] we cancelled. We really regret it because the governor was really excited to be going there."

He added that they informed San Nicolas beforehand that they couldn't make the trip to Tinian.

"I sent JP San Nicolas an email that we regretfully couldn't go down because of the strong winds and we have to take precautionary measures."

Blanco said the governor and lieutenant governor have yet to receive an invitation to attend this weekend's inauguration of Rota Mayor Ephraim Atalig.

The mayors of Tinian, Rota, and Northern Islands took their oaths of office last Monday at the Governor's Office. The events happening on their respective islands are for ceremonial purposes so the people of the Tinian and Rota can partake of the festivities. *(Mark Rabago)*

Casino commissioners set to fly to Las Vegas this February

Saipan Casino Commission commissioners Juan Sablan, Alvaro Santos, Joseph Reyes, Justin S. Manglona, and the would-be commissioner from Tinian are set to travel to Las Vegas, Nevada, next month to learn first-hand how a casino operates.

"All of us will have to be trained because we have no knowledge about the casino industry," said Sablan in an interview yesterday afternoon following the commission's meeting at the Governor's Office on Capitol Hill.

Sablan added that by that time hopefully a commissioner from Tinian would've been appointed and confirmed by the Tinian Legislative Delegation.

"We've talked to JP San Nicolas and he said he's going to appoint a commissioner from Tinian and hopefully he or she will be confirmed by the delegation."

In related news, Sablan said the commission is just about ready to name its executive director. He said the commission received four applications for the job opening and that the four commissioners will make a decision by next week.

He said after the naming of the executive director, the

commission will then choose among five applicants for the legal counsel position, this time with the help from the executive director.

"I want the executive director to be part of the process of choosing the legal counsel because they're going to work together."

Last month, the commission also adopted its rules and bylaws.

Sablan added that aside from the executive director and legal counsel positions, the commission is also looking at finalizing the renovations at their office, which is located at the former Credit Union building on Capital Hill.

When they're finally settled in and both the executive director and legal counsel positions filled, Sablan said they would now be really ready to tackle their mandate to regulate the island's casino industry.

He said they have yet to meet officials of Saipan integrated casino developer, Best Sunshine International, Ltd.

"Not at this point as they were off-island during the holidays. We're planning to meet with Best Sunshine after we choose the executive director. We will meet with them at their convenient schedule." *(Mark Rabago)*



ETC DONATION

Grace Christian Academy principal Beth Nunez accepts an Education Tax Credit donation from Tan Holdings Corp. vice president for Finance Lina Dimaano.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

YOU COULD WIN AN XBOX360

When you pay your IT&E Bill on or before the 15th.

CLICK TO PAY NOW



www.ite.net



The fastest, safest, most convenient way to pay.

*Some Conditions Apply. Must Pay IT&E Bill Online in Full, Residential Customers ONLY. First Generation Xbox 360 (4GB)

CALL

Saipan **682-4ITE (4483)**
Tinian **433-0210**
Rota **532-3599**

VISIT

Chalan LauLau
Wireless Express Center - TSL Building

www.ite.net



Online option smoothens NMC registration

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College has gotten "positive feedback" on its new online registration, which was started for continuing students this spring semester, according to director of admissions Manny Castro.

Students told *Saipan Tribune* that the online option was "super easy" and was much "better than waiting for two hours" like in past semesters.

"It was so easy this semester.

It was so awesome because if we didn't want a class, we could just change, drop the class and add a new class," said Cassy Deleon Guerrero, a junior pursuing business administration at the college.

The website "shows you the timing of the classes" and "has a feature where it shows you the days of the week," she said.

The best part of website, she said, is that it can tell you if classes a student wants are conflicting.

Her advice is for students to understand the registration process,

and check with their adviser before registering online.

Castro said registration was only open to ongoing students because "most of them have a set [individualized degree] plan" and a "path laid out for them," versus new or returning students who may not have taken their placement tests in math or English yet, and are not informed of what classes are there.

He said 465 students registered for classes online for this spring semester, from about 1,000 students at the college.

He said the college's IT Department is looking to integrate financial aid, the Finance office, and testing information into the website in the future.

Right now he said the online portal is "kind of like shopping online."

He said it helps advisers also because "no longer do they need to pull out a file," as there is an advising tab that contains their student information.

He said issues the college had in the past were "huge bottlenecks" in trying to get students the information they needed.

He said the online registration gives advisers more time to work with what they have, and helps teachers gauge what classes they have are filling up before the semester starts.

They are working to have online registration out "two months ahead" of school next time around, he said.

He described the new online option as "full-360," with its scheduling, academic planning, and finance features, among others.

According to Castro, they had the software for the program since 2001, but faced an infrastructure issue with the college's Internet capacity.

He said the college now has the human capacity of a "complete team" at the college's IT Department, with network, database, system administrators, and a director who are all "very skilled in what they do."

He described the launch of the online option as a "good team effort," pooling the college's Finance and Financial Aid offices, and its administration and faculty to together.

Red Cross gets new pickup from Atkins Kroll/Toyota

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In celebration of Atkins Kroll/Toyota's 100th anniversary in Guam, the company donated three new pickup trucks to the American Red Cross through their "Cars for the Community" program. With the support of the Guam Chapter, Atkins Kroll has sent one of the trucks to Saipan.

During the presentation of the pickup truck to the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter yesterday afternoon at the Atkins Kroll lot in San Jose, Atkins Kroll vice president and general manager Doug Brennan said the donation is part of the company's way of giving back to the community.

"It is a celebration of 100 years on the island of Guam and this is their way of giving back," he said.

ARC emergency services director Paul Camacho was grateful for the donation, noting it would be an additional car for their disaster and response team.

"It will help us with house fires, floods, and storms and we're all happy and we'd like to thank Atkins Kroll and the company," Camacho said.

He said the NMI Chapter has two disaster vehicles and the new truck will be a great addition.

Camacho also thanked Triple B Forwarders for donating the shipment of the truck from Guam to Saipan.

ARC executive director John Hirsh was also grateful that Atkins Kroll provided the signage for the truck.

"The agreement stipulates that all the use, maintenance and insurance for the next two years being donated by Atkins Kroll and Takagi and Associates, Inc.," Hirsh said.



The American Red Cross-NMI Chapter receives a generous donation of a pickup truck, thanks to Atkins Kroll/Toyota "Cars for the Community" program in Guam. Seen in photo from left to right: ARC Emergency Services director Paul Camacho, ARC board member Joshua Sasamoto, Takagi and Associates, Inc. Saipan branch manager Satsuki H. Perez, ARC volunteer Lupe Sabino, ARC executive director John Hirsh, Atkins sales manager Glen Perez, ARC board member Larry Lee, Triple B Forwarders staff, Atkins vice president and general manager Doug Brennan, and ARC board member Nola Hix.

Habeas corpus request of man who jumped from DOC balcony is denied

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman denied yesterday an application for writ of habeas corpus filed by Xu Guang Li, a Chinese national who was slapped with a five-year prison term for possession of less than two grams of methamphetamine or "ice" and claimed that he failed to appear in court because Department of Corrections personnel refused his requests to use a telephone to talk to his lawyer.

A writ of habeas corpus is an extraordinary legal remedy and its purpose is to release prisoners who are illegally restrained of their liberty.

An additional purpose is

to allow the prisoner to challenge the factor duration of his confinement, and allow the prisoner to seek immediate or speedier release.

Wiseman ruled that Li's application for writ of habeas corpus was not a collateral attack on defendant's sentence, and that his claim should have been brought to the CNMI Supreme Court under direct appeal.

Wiseman ordered assistant public defender Matthew Meyer, counsel for Li, to advise the defendant in the matter of obtaining new post-conviction counsel for the purpose of filing a successive application for writ of habeas corpus limited to the issue of ineffective assistance of counsel.

Li, 36, was convicted on a charge of illegal possession of

a controlled substance during a bench trial on Sept. 5, 2013.

On Sept. 18, 2013, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho sentenced Li to five years in prison. Camacho denied a presentence investigation report because "the case is relatively straightforward."

At the sentencing hearing, Li indicated to his counsel, Meyer, that he did not wish to file an appeal.

Five days after the sentencing, Li reportedly jumped from a second floor balcony at the Department of Corrections, fracturing his spinal vertebrae. He spent time at the Commonwealth Health Center from Sept. 22 to Oct. 24, 2013.

On Oct. 15, 2014, after Li's right to appeal had passed, he,

through Meyer, filed the application for a writ of habeas corpus requesting post-conviction relief in the form of the right to file a belated appeal.

Meyer asked the court that Li be immediately released from incarceration and for the trial court to conduct a new sentencing hearing.

To support Li's claim for post-conviction relief, Meyer alleged that Department of Corrections personnel prevented Li from using the telephone.

Meyer claimed that Li's attempts to call an attorney and ask for the attorney to file an appeal were rebuffed by DOC personnel.

Meyer asserted that Li missed the filing deadline to file an appeal because of the actions of

DOC personnel.

Li sought immediate release from DOC, and requested that the trial court conduct a new sentencing hearing "consistent with Commonwealth law."

Meyer argued that the court should issue habeas corpus relief because the sentencing court violated Li's constitutional due process rights.

In denying the petition, Wiseman said the attorney who is subject of the claim of ineffective assistance of counsel should not prosecute the claim.

Wiseman said he does not find it proper that a defendant's attorney at trial can bring a post-conviction claim arguing that he or she provided ineffective assistance.

Wiseman said he takes judi-

cial notice of the fact that Li's current counsel (Meyer) is the attorney who is the subject of the ineffective assistance of counsel claim.

"This is problematic for a number of reasons," Wiseman pointed out.

First, Wiseman said, it makes the court skeptical of Li's claims.

Second, he said, such representation creates a substantial potential for a conflict of interest.

Wiseman said he is persuaded that the potential dangers of a conflict of interest where trial counsel serves as appellate counsel are also apparent when trial counsel seeks post-conviction habeas corpus relief under a Sixth Amendment claim for ineffective assistance of counsel.

Accordingly, Wiseman said, he declines to address this issue.

Implementation plan for Cope North 2015 'in the works'

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Pacific Air Forces COPE North 2015 military exercises are expected to begin around mid-February next month, according to Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Maryann Lizama yesterday.

Last February, the 85th iteration of Pacific Air Forces' Cope North exercise began at the Andersen Air Force Base in Guam on Feb 14. The island of Tinian also hosted the exer-

cise that month.

The exercise brought together the United States Air Force, the Republic of Korea Air Force, the Japan Air Self-Defense Force and the Royal Australian Air Force, for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief training, as well as air combat and air-to-ground weapons training, among other things.

Lizama indicated yesterday that because the military exercise would involve use of CPA property, the implementation plan for which the military

would have sign off is "still in the works."

She said the military has "submitted their scope of work" as part of the implementation plan required by CPA, which details the procedures and requirements to be signed off and met by any military branch wishing to conduct operations on CPA grounds.

Lizama could not disclose the kind of military activities to be performed when asked.

The implementation plan includes an acknowledgement

form that has yet to be signed off on by the military, according to Lizama. The plan, or the "CNMI (Rota, Saipan, Tinian) Airfields Implementation Plan" was adopted by the CPA board of directors in November.

Lizama said they have always had this procedure in the past but now it is "sanctioned by the board."

Among other requirements, the plan requires standard operating procedures that detail the type, duration, description of movement, and location of pro-

posed military exercises, to be submitted no later than 60 days before the actual training.

The FAA reviews this standard operating procedure and, when approved, CPA would require ground operation, implementation, and acknowledgement forms to be signed off by the military within a seven-day deadline.

The plan does not apply to foreign military or commercial aircraft contracted by the U.S. Department of Defense, and would allow CPA to charge fees on foreign or commercial units

participating or aiding in U.S. military exercises.

The plan also demands a "Military Operation Facilities Impact Report," to be completed after operations conclude. The report would describe the number, weight and type of military or civilian-contracted take-off and landings during military exercises.

This would enable CPA to monitor the level of use of its facilities, and would allow CPA to seek reimbursement—as authorized by the FAA—once certain usage levels have been met.

BOE standing committee chairs named

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The chairpersons for the 14th CNMI State Board of Education standing committees have been named, according to a memo issued to board members by chairman Herman T. Guerrero.

The chair for the Capital Improvement Projects, or CIP, committee is Janice A. Tenorio. Vice chair is Mary S. Ada, and the listed member is Denise Tanya King.

This committee catalogues all PSS real and collateral property and seeks deeds of title for all PSS property, as well as develops school infrastructure plans, among other things.

The Fiscal, Personnel, and Administration, or FPA, committee will be chaired by Ada; Florine M. Hofschneider will serve as vice chair, and the listed member is Herman T. Guerrero, chairman of the board.

The FPA, among other things, reviews and recommends to the full board the fiscal budget for the Public School System.

Hofschneider will in turn chair the Instructional Services and Assessment, or ISA, committee, previously chaired by King. Herman T. Guerrero will serve as vice chair; King is a member.

This committee's task is to familiarize itself with the latest trends in education with respect to curriculum, instruction and accreditation, and recommend policies related to these, among other things.

Board chair Guerrero will head the Legislative and Inter-

governmental Affairs, or LIA, committee. His vice chair is Ada. Tenorio and board member Galvin S. Deleon Guerrero serve as members of the committee.

This committee familiarizes itself with local, federal, and applicable regional regulations, policies, and procedures as they apply to PSS, and reviews and recommends to the full board comments on House or Senate bills and other legislative action as well as propose draft legislation relating to matters that affect education in the CNMI.

King will chair the Student Issues and Community and Parent Programs, or SICPP, committee. Tenorio is the SICPP vice chair. Members are Hofschneider and student representative to the board, Lori Dee Hocog.

This committee learns of the current practices of PSS and innovations in education that lead to student learning gains and reviews and recommends policies to the board in respect to these, among other things.

John S. Blanco will chair the School Attendance Review Committee, or SARC, which aims to curb truancy in public schools. SARC's vice chair will be Sylvio Ada; members are Julian R. Camacho, Jose Saures, Marianao Fajardo, Zachariah Johnson, and Suzanne Lizama.

Pursuant to BOE bylaws, the chair of the board, Guerrero, names the committee chairpersons.

Tenorio will be the board's representative to the Head Start Policy Council.



ROAD MISHAP

Police officers watch as a crane pulls a truck that lost control and flipped on its side while traveling north at the Chalan Pale Arnold and Isa Drive intersection in Sadog Tasi Monday afternoon. The driver was not injured.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

PSS high school hospitality certification course enrollment now open

The CNMI Public School System and the Latte Training Academy are currently registering interested PSS high school juniors and seniors into the spring "START" (Skills, Takes and Results Training) hospitality certification course from the American Hotel and Lodging Education Institute. Students completing the course receive globally recognized certifications that they can use to assist them in securing employment in the hospi-

tal industry.

The hospitality classes are delivered over the course of the normal school semester, held on each of the Saipan high school campuses and taught by experienced instructors. The program involves nine hours of classroom instruction with outside reading per week. Students also have the opportunity to participate in a job shadowing component, which provides students with hands-on experience in different hotel departments at various hotel/resort establishments on the island.

To date, Latte Training Academy students have collectively shadowed for approximately

420 hours at number of partner hotels. This program also helps students with their resume writing, interview skills and job search.

"We are happy to report that students taking last year's spring course are employed here on Saipan at the Hyatt Regency, Mariana Resort and Spa and Pacific Island Club, as well as the Outrigger Hotel and Palm Ridge Hotels in Guam," says Arielle Buyum, president of Latte Training Academy. "We are looking forward to seeing more of our students get employed in the industry when our fall class graduates later this month. Students who make the

commitment and sacrifice to earn this certificate are just the type of potential employees our hotels are looking to interview and hire."

Representatives from the Latte Training Academy will be visiting all three Saipan high schools between Jan. 12 and 21 to provide students with more information. However interested students are encouraged to visit the organization's website at www.lattetrainingacademy.com to learn more and register for the spring session. There are only 25 slots per high available, so interested students should sign up soon. Registration deadline is Jan. 22. (LTA)

State Dep't partnership launches Fish 2.0 Seafood Business Competition in Pacific

The U.S. Department of State announced yesterday a new partnership with Fish 2.0 and the International diaspora Engagement Alliance (IdEA) to launch the 2015 Fish 2.0 Seafood Business Competition, a competition that connects investors with businesses in fisheries, aquaculture, and seafood supply chains, which will have a special focus on the Pacific Islands in 2015.

The U.S. Department of

State's partnership with Fish 2.0 will foster the growth of businesses and investment in the Pacific Islands, facilitate diaspora mentoring connections, and support the development of sustainable fisheries, technologies, and supply chains to protect the global ocean. Workshops in Pohnpei, Micronesia in February and in Nadi, Fiji in March will provide hands on training and support for businesses and investors.

The U.S. Department of

State's support to Fish 2.0 builds on ongoing initiatives and new commitments announced at the June 2014 Our Ocean Conference, and reinforces the department's commitment to working with diaspora communities to power development through the IdEA partnership.

For more information about this partnership, email partnerships@state.gov or visit <http://www.fish20.org/events/pacific>. (U.S. Embassy Colonia)

Public warned of high surf today

Based on information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan Guam, and compiled at the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management, a combination of north, northeast, and east swells will produce hazardous surf along north and east facing reefs.

A high surf advisory is now in effect until 6am today,

Thursday.

Surf will be hazardous at 10 to 12 feet along north and east facing reefs then gradually diminish to heights of 7 to 9 feet by Thursday morning.

A strong high pressure passing far to the north combined with a strengthening tropical depression to the southwest will maintain strong east winds and rough seas of 12 to 14 feet.

Winds and seas will gradually decline on Thursday and Friday as the high passes to the east and the tropical system moves off to the west. A surface ridge will move over the Marianas on Saturday followed by a shear line on Sunday and Monday.

The public is advised to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches, especially those facing north as rip currents will be life threatening. (PR)

CTF-75 establishment ceremony celebrates mission ahead



By MCS1 TIMOTHY WILSON
JOINT REGION MARIANAS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SANTA RITA, Guam—Commander Task Force 75 was established in a ceremony at Camp Covington aboard Naval Base Guam on Jan. 9.

The event formalized CTF-75's command and control of assigned Navy Expeditionary Combat Forces within the 7th Fleet area of operations for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief as well as combat operations.

"In a very short period of time, because of the sailors we

have, we completely integrated this effort into the larger 7th Fleet combat readiness scheme, our theater security cooperation efforts and crisis responses," said Vice Adm. Robert Thomas, commander, U.S. 7th Fleet, the event's guest speaker. "They provide us great access and really move our strategic intent forward in a way that is subtle and effective."

CTF-75 is capable of providing the fleet with diverse warfighting capabilities such as coastal riverine support, explosive ordnance disposal, diving, salvage and construction capabilities, as well as expeditionary intelligence and logistics in near-shore waters, littoral regions and inland areas.

"I am proud to be the commander of the operational forces highlighted today," said Commodore (Capt.) Erich Diehl, commander CTF-75. "This ceremony marks the transition

from our initial operating capability to Task Force 75's full operating capability."

Diehl said the cooperation and support from Joint Region Marianas and Naval Base Guam for the task force has been critical, not only for the expeditionary Sailors, but also their families.

"There are more than 1,000 sailors postured forward, ready to respond, and who are today constantly building those critical partnerships prior to the onset of crisis," Diehl said. "CTF-75 is on-point and always ready."

The foundations of CTF-75 includes always being combat-ready and able to deploy anywhere in 7th Fleet in response to any contingency. The Navy's expeditionary forces exist first and foremost to support the fleet's warfighting operations and are the Navy's sea-to-shore interface.

US Naval Hospital Guam offers joint training on prevention

AGANA HEIGHTS, Guam—Prevention is important to a person's health. According to the Center for Disease Control, almost one out of every two adults has at least one chronic disease, many of which are preventable. Focusing on prevention can create healthier families and communities. Because of this, the Department of Public Health offers a variety of free services in order to help people prevent illness, disease and other unwanted issues. This includes the provision of birth control options. In Guam, however, not all forms of birth control were available.

Recently, staff from the Obstetric and Gynecological Department at U.S. Naval Hospital Guam, and the Medical Clinic on Andersen Air Force Base,

provided training on intrauterine devices, or IUDs, which are small T-shaped contraceptives that are inserted into the uterus.

The training was provided to medical personnel from the hospital, Andersen Air Force Base, and the Guam Department of Public Health in order to assist DPH in offering diverse, contraceptive options to patients. According to Cmdr. Katherine Austin, an OB/GYN who works at the hospital, "Long acting reversible contraception is the first line birth control recommended in the United States. All women, no matter their location in the world, should have equal access to birth control."

The training was provided by Austin, along with Cmdr. Kelly Elmore, OB/GYN, and Maj. Rebecca Kemmet, who is

a Family Medicine Provider and works at the Andersen Air Force base medical clinic.

According to Austin, the combination of OB/GYN and Family Medicine provided the trainees a well-rounded educational experience. The training was also given in conjunction with a video teleconference call with Michael Kelly, a representative from a pharmaceutical company, who provided training on a specific IUD, along with some of the training supplies.

"This training is important as it improves the skills of the educators, while providing evidence based knowledge to the participants, and builds camaraderie amongst providers on the island," said Austin. "This particular training provided not only an academic portion, but hands-on skills

that directly translate into the ability to care for patients."

Because the training was such a success, Austin hopes there will be more in the future and she, along with her counter-

parts, are already looking into some options.

"We are also in the process of instituting Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics here at the hospital. Once we are up and run-

ning, we hope to be able to offer this training to island providers."

This training was provided Dec. 23, 2014, at the U.S. Naval Hospital Guam training department. (USN)

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Cmdr. Kelly Elmore, an OB/GYN from U.S. Naval Hospital Guam, and Maj. Rebecca Kemmet, a Family Medicine Provider from Andersen Air Force Base Medical Clinic, provide instruction to medical personnel from the Guam Department of Public Health on intrauterine devices, small T-shaped contraceptives that are inserted into the uterus. This training allows the Guam DPH to offer a wide variety of birth control options that were not previously available.



Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

January 15, 2004

NMITFF meets for upcoming Half Marathon/10K events

With its Saipan Half Marathon/10K Championships nearing, the Northern Mariana Islands Track and Field Association announced that it will hold an important meeting this Tuesday, January 20, at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium conference room. According to NMITFF Official Director James Lee, the meeting was called as officials aim at putting in the final touches before the events hit Beach Road on January 24. "This meeting will mainly deal with the Saipan Half Marathon/10K Championships," he said. "It closing in pretty fast and we need to make sure everything is ready and in place." In a phone interview, Lee added that in order for the event to run smoothly, the help of volunteers will be necessary.

Minor arrested for alleged disturbance

Authorities arrested a 16-year-old boy who was reeking with alcohol odor when a complaint of disturbance was reported near the Saipan International School in As Lito Monday night. Police department spokesperson Sgt. Tom Blas, Jr. said the suspect was placed under arrest and brought to the Department of Public Safety where he was processed and taken into custody. After the processing, the boy was turned over to the Division of Youth Ser-

vices. Initial investigation disclosed that separate complaints were forwarded to the DPS central in Susupe after residents noted a disturbance by the SIS campus Monday around 7:12pm.

January 15, 2005

Storm intensifies as it bears down on region

Tropical Storm 01W continues to intensify as it makes its way toward the Commonwealth, which was placed under Typhoon Watch as of 2pm yesterday. The watch means typhoon conditions are possible within the next 48 hours. The Emergency Management Office and the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, said that typhoon conditions may be felt tonight and into tomorrow if the storm continues on its forecast track. Forecast for Saipan and Tinian tonight to tomorrow features damaging winds of 40 to 50 mph with gusts of up to 70 mph. Heavy rains are expected with a slight chance of thunderstorms. EMO indicated that in the event of a direct hit, winds may increase to 50 to 60 mph from variable directions for several hours.

2 drug peddlers given 78 months in prison

The U.S. District Court yesterday sentenced two drug peddlers to six-and-a-half years imprisonment. Chief Judge Alex R. Munson imposed the sentence on Xu Yu Yao and Chen Bing Shu. The court convicted Xu on illegal drug distribution and conspiracy charges; Chen had pleaded guilty to a conspiracy charge, in connection with offenses committed last June 2004. The judge meted out 78-month prison terms for each count. For the prison terms pertaining to the two counts against Xu, the judge ordered that they be served concurrently, which means that Xu would only serve 78 months in prison. The judge gave the defendants credit

for the time they had already spent in jail.

January 15, 2008

Fisherman catches rare fish

While sitting at the beach behind his uncle Lino Olopai's house in Chalan Kanoa, fisherman Cecillio Raiukiulipiy spotted a strange looking fish jumping in and out of the water. "I don't know if it was trying to commit suicide or something but I had to go check it out," said Raiukiulipiy. He raced down the beach and reached down to pick up the fish. His first reaction was that "it looked very strange. It had a large head and almost no tail," adding that in all his years of fishing, he has never seen one like it. Raiukiulipiy said he called the Division of Fish & Wildlife to help them identify it. "We were pouring water on its body to keep it alive. Unfortunately, two hours later, it had already died when photographers were taking pictures. But when it was alive, it had many different colors," said Raiukiulipiy.

Misused \$6.4M uncollected in '07

The Attorney General's Office and other government agencies did nothing in the first half of 2007 to recover some \$6.4 million in misused funds. The Office of the Public Auditor reported that it received no updates from the AGO and other responsible agencies on the status of the recovery of the funds. As of June 30, 2007, audit recommendations in 13 audit reports were referred to the AGO for legal action to recover improperly expended funds. According to these audit reports, some \$2.7 million is potentially recoverable. This includes about \$1.3 million in overpayments of professional services contracts, and \$1.1 million from the Tinian gaming commission.

Saipan Chamber of Commerce meets with Bolivar



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Photo shows, from left, Mike Johnson, Marine Maj. Gen. Michael Dana, Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Alex Sablan, Navy Rear Adm. Bette Bolivar, Donna Krum, Roy Tsutsumi, Wayne Gillespie, and Air Force Brig. Gen. Steven Basham.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce held a productive meeting with military officials at its office yesterday morning. The meeting was an introduction to Rear Adm. Bette Bolivar and

other officials and went a long way toward clearing up misperceptions on both sides in regard to the U.S. Air Force's divert initiative.

Marine Maj. Gen. Michael

Dana from Pacific Command, Bolivar as the Pacific Command's Defense Representative for CNMI, and Air Force Brig. Gen. Steven Basham from Pacific Air Forces sat down with

the Chamber's board of directors and its Armed Forces Committee. The meeting was open and informal, and the military openly addressed and discussed areas of concern for the Cham-

ber members.

In that meeting, military officials clearly stated that both Tinian and Saipan are still on the table regarding the divert airfield, and no decision has been made.

The goal is to reach a win-win situation for both the U.S. Department of Defense and the CNMI. The Chamber also learned that the Air Force has de-scoped the initiative specific to Saipan and fighter aircraft will no longer be part of this annual training. This decision was made because the CNMI had expressed concern about how jet noise would affect the surrounding areas.

The military reinforced that, unless there is a national emergency, divert will only be used for 4-8 weeks per year by tanker aircraft during annual training. Tanker aircraft are similar to the commercial aircraft that land and take off from Saipan each day. No matter what the decision is, the Air Force expressed their commitment to cause no adverse impact on commercial operations. Airfield development that accompanies both Tinian and Saipan alternatives will consider sharing some infrastructure under a Joint Land Use Agreement. The military reiterated that they are committed to being good stewards of the CNMI's resources and its environment.

The next several months will continue to see ongoing communication between the Department of Defense and CNMI. These military leaders, along with Craig Whelden from Marine Forces Pacific, who was on-island meeting with the governor and lieutenant governor, are showing a military cohesion. They have expressed willingness to work with the Chamber and the CNMI in a transparent manner. The military officials are requesting for CNMI agencies to allow the EIS process to continue to help the military make the best informed decision. (SCC)

Miss Marianas Teen thanks guests for choosing NMI



STELLAR MARIANAS

2014 Miss Marianas Teen Gianna Camacho takes photos with guests as they check out yesterday from Saipan World Resort & Spa and thanked them for visiting the islands.

While checking out at Saipan World Resort & Spa yesterday, guests had the opportunity to meet and take photos with 2014 Miss Marianas Teen Gianna Camacho, who thanked them for visiting the islands.

On school break from the Northern Marianas Academy at the Northern Marianas College, Camacho decided to spend some time greeting visitors and show appreciation for making the CNMI their choice for a vacation destination.

"It was fun meeting our visi-

tors and sharing a photo with them., I learned how to say thank you in four languages. I'll definitely be doing more of these meet and greets at our local hotels and at the airport," she said.

Camacho was an instant hit with the guests, with families taking photos and sharing light moments with the local beauty queen.

"Our next round of meet and greets will feature Gianna giving our visitors postcards with her official photo and a note that says 'thank you for visiting

our islands,' said Stellar Marianas president Laila Boyer.

"She is preparing for the 2015 Miss Teen International Pageant in Jacksonville, Florida, this July and being active in the community only strengthens her abilities as an ambassador and a positive role model for our community," she said.

Camacho recently participated in the 2014 Japan Association of Travel Agents Expo in Tokyo, Japan, toured in the 2014 Christmas in the Marianas Parade, took photos with

residents and visitors at the Thursday Night Street Market, volunteered as a model for two major Japanese channels, and the ongoing Mariana Islands Nature Alliance Reusable Bag Challenge, donated books to the CHC Pediatric Unit for her birthday, and will also be reading to first graders at Garapan Elementary School tomorrow to help promote literacy.

"I will be launching a Valentine's Day dream date giveaway for teens next week and a heritage fashion show competition for

young designers to turn traditional wear to a modern flair as a way to celebrate diversity, which is my platform," smiled Camacho.

Details of both events will be released shortly.

Stellar Marianas, the island's nonprofit talent and pageant organization is also continuing the search for candidates for the 2015 Miss Marianas Pageant. Applications can be picked up at Pena House Boutique in Chalan Kanoa or email stellarqueens@gmail.com or visit Stellar Marianas on Face Book. (PR)

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXV, Issue No. 10Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950**Jayvee L. Vallejera** EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com**Mark Rabago** ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

1,000 lashes for a Saudi dissident

You might say Raif Badawi got off easy. When the Saudi blogger was arrested, authorities charged him with crimes that included apostasy—which in Saudi Arabia carries the death penalty. In the end, he was convicted of setting up a website that allegedly undermined security and ridiculed religious figures. Far from being put to death, he was sentenced to 10 years in prison. Oh, and 1,000 lashes.

No, we're not talking about radical extremists of the Islamic State or Iranian ayatollahs meting out revenge against their enemies. We're talking about a long-ruling government that is an American ally—against, now that you mention it, both the Islamic State and Iran. Saudi Arabia has often been helpful to America in Iraq, and lately it has been helpful in weakening Iran and Russia by producing so much oil that the price has plunged.

But the Saudi monarchy is fiercely repressive toward dissenters, religious or political. Badawi is the unlucky victim of a particularly ferocious response. He is already serving his prison term, and on Friday he endured the first round of physical violence—50 strokes with a large cane on his back and legs in a public site next to a mosque.

It was an extreme reaction to dissent even for Saudi Arabia, and it provoked a protest from the U.S. State Department, which said it “calls on Saudi authorities to cancel this brutal punishment,” imposed merely for “exercising his rights to freedom of expression and religion.”

That request came Thursday. The flogging, the first of many, took place Friday, indicating that the Saudis feel no need to accommodate American views on human rights or penal sanctions. They have their own ways of running a society—medieval ways—and they are not about to change them.

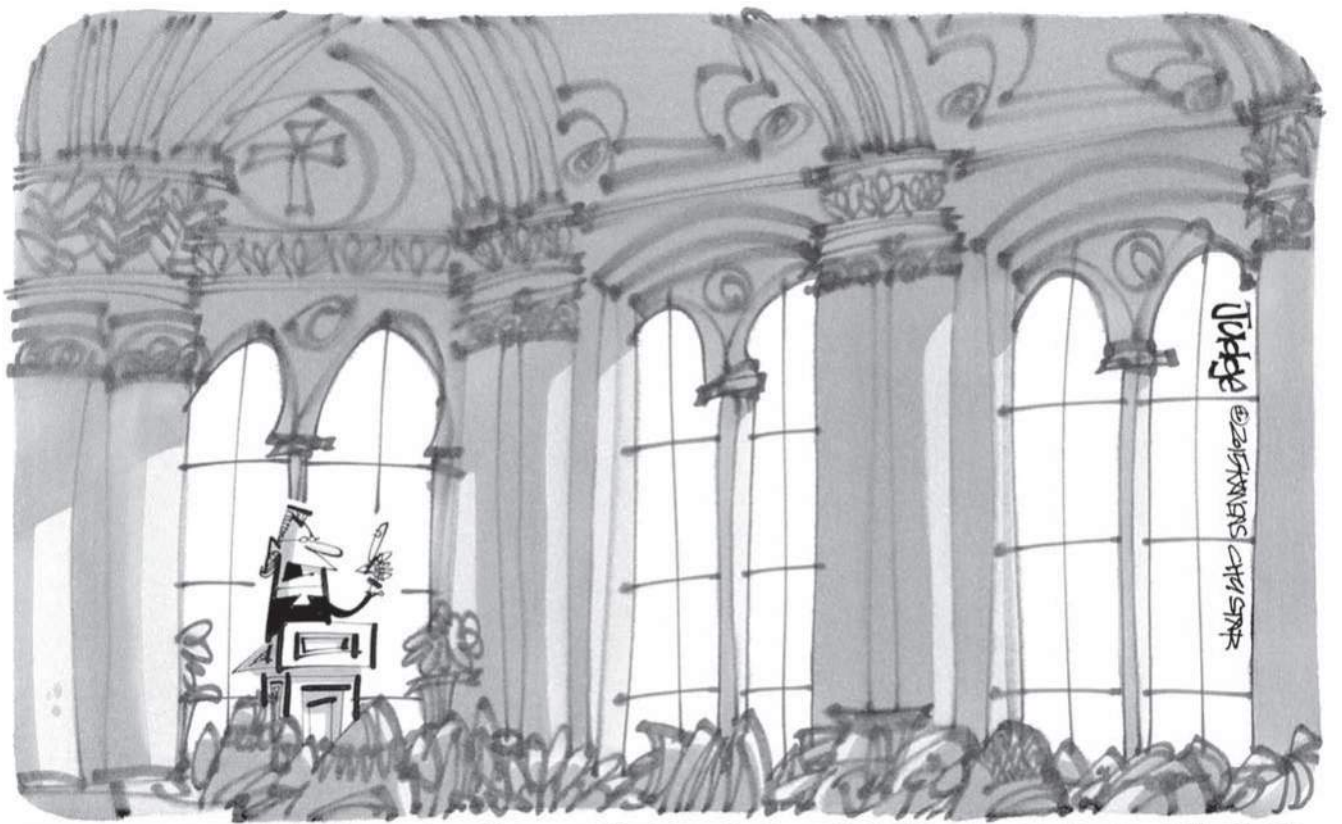
Still, the Obama administration was right to highlight this barbaric persecution of peaceful activists whose only “crime” was to post material finding fault with religious authorities. King Abdullah shouldn't assume the U.S. will turn a blind eye no matter what.

This case has been taken up by human rights groups, including Amnesty International, which said, “Raif Badawi is the latest victim to fall prey to the ruthless campaign to silence peaceful activists in Saudi Arabia. The authorities seem determined to crush all forms of dissent through every means at their disposal, including imposing harsh prison sentences and corporal punishment on activists.”

At a time when Islamist radicals are carrying out violent jihads against those who dare to mock their faith—or fellow Muslims who happen to follow different religious traditions—the behavior of the Saudi regime stands out. That's not because it is so different from the others, but because it is done under the auspices of law.

The massacre of staffers at a satirical publication in Paris was a reminder of the divide in the modern world between those who accept freedom of speech and diversity of opinion and those who think they are ordained to silence anyone whose view of the truth is different from theirs. In this historic, critical struggle, the Saudi government is proudly on the wrong side.

(c)2015 Chicago Tribune



"AND IF YOU IGNORE THE CRUSADES, THE INQUISITION, WITCH BURNINGS, PLANNED PARENTHOOD BOMBINGS AND GAY BASHING, WE CHRISTIANS ARE APPALLED BY RELIGIOUS EXTREMISM."

For Pete's sake

Yvette was co-teacher to 6th graders at San Vicente Elementary School a few years back and Yvonne, her sister, was at Garapan ES. Yvonne later moved to SVES as the principal. Her daughter was at SVES when I was there.

Pleasantness of the sisters is not what merits their mention in this column. It's their father, the retiring Sen. Pete Reyes, that brings our mind to the political community in the CNMI of which Sen. Reyes was an early “acquaintance,” though I suspect not a few of our views are probably diametrically opposite each other.

We join many in thanking the senator's years of government service and we trust he will continue his civic mindedness even when he is out of elected office.

I really did not make it as a CNMI resident until Thanksgiving Day of 1998 when I took the assignment from the United Methodist Church to pastor Immanuel UMC at Koblerville, though I lived in the Marshall Islands and Guam in the early '80s and made a weeklong visit to Saipan one late December before the '90s.

I attended my first public function wearing a clerical collar at the Susupe Multi-Purpose Center and found myself seated between Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio and Washington Rep. Juan I. Babauta who would later become governor. Being a newbie on island, I was very friendly and Gov. Pete was equally bubbly before and after he delivered his SOCA. When I met first lady Sophia, I immediately liked and respected the couple.

My church predecessor, Barbara, who “recruited” me to Saipan, commented after one of the local papers' front page showed a picture of the governor and I conferring at the capitol that I managed to move swiftly into the island's power circle in a short time. Not quite, but the island deferred to members of the clergy of any persuasion in my experience, so it was easy to move around, especially if one stuck to playing the traditional part of the parson's role of being everyone's Mr. Nice Guy.

Rep. Babauta was a bit stiff on the collar that SOCA day; in my estimation, he ignored the pipsqueak of a Pinoy bagong salta “parochial protestant pastor,” probably Pentecostal, who may have just come from the Philippines. I was, in fact, recently a resident inside Washington, D.C.'s beltway at Falls Church, not unfamiliar with Georgetown and the southeast quadrant where the Capitol dome dominated but he was in no mood for chitchat, and I was well mannered enough not to intrude into his meditative space.

When he was already governor and jogged the lagoon pathway on the tail end of dusk, at about the time I did my evening walks, we did exchange greetings. I did vote for him in the 2001 election. I also brought a lady California-Pacific church leader of Korean descent married to a Japanese for a courtesy call at his office, and he was all-charms in his noted ladies' man ways.

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



If there were outsiders watching, they easily would have been mistaken for ardent lovebirds!

He was Juan and she was Jo Ann; I might have uttered under my breath: «for Pete's sake!»

Later, I voted for Heinz who won at first round, but when the second round was tallied, Ben Fitial who is my age, was ahead by 2 percent points. Though I write for the paper owned by Tan Holdings he was associated with, I never really got to know him personally in spite of being liked by the Pinoy community, not only for a Pinay spouse but also for being a paternalistic politico like a Filipino.

Between him on a wheelchair and I on another when I came from a Honolulu gall bladder surgery, we were transit airport handicapped buddies! In similar fashion, Gov. Eloy was fellow airport terminal habitué in transit in Tokyo or Seoul.

I feel close to the current governor, him being a relation to one of our favorite island people, the late PSS Commissioner Rita Inos. She graced a women's forum I once helped organize at a Methodist Resource Center at Oleai and stayed for the whole duration, making a spirited drumming of women's issues on island.

I was not on island in the last election so I did not vote, though Heinz was not my preference this time. I once attended a forum on our general treatment of those with different abilities (aka disabled) where our legislator Heinz attended from the Legislature, and he acted aloof to our proceedings to the point of being rudely arrogant. For no reason but gut ease, I would have voted for Eloy!

It was Gov. Eloy's inauguration that got us thinking of CNMI politics, which led us to the plethora of kudos on the retirement of Sen. Pete Reyes. Now, with Hillary Clinton likely heading for the Supreme Court where her talents could be well utilized, and Elizabeth Warren suddenly heads for the White House, women might finally crash the glass ceiling of American politics and claim what Chinese sages say: nu ren neng ding ban bian tian (women hold half of the sky).

This led us to wander what the SVES principal is up to these days. Well, I would support a political trek up Capital Hill now that Papa is retired. What say mo, Aling Yvonne?

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Sustansian Kinemprende

Guaha un` lepbloghu kada ratu hu bisita pahinaña pot esplikasion hafa tutuhon kinemprende. Era, ansias-yu` lokue` kumomprende hafa pasun kinemprende.

‘Nai tali’e una kosa estague’ primet eskaleran tutuhon hinisgan mañgomprende. Tali’e paluma ni gaige gi papa` hinerat kategorian “ga’ga”. Dinanche i ta supone. I paluma gumugupu, gai papa yan piku gi menan iluña. Siña mohon ta po`lu na paluma lokue` i fanihe? Estague` na eskalera `nai ta tutuhon pumega gi klasen ga’ga’.

Para un` siña mamatinas disision, debi u guaha dos ideu pot akomparasion. Siña ha` bula ideu gi hinassomu lau `nai ti mamatinas hau disision, pues taya` disision. ‘Nai un` atan un` asuntu ya un` akompara yan i otro ya umafagcha` i dos, pues debi u parehu. Lau `nai ti umafagcha` pues siempre un` fattu gi mina` tres eskaleran hinisga—usun rason.

I puntu na hu bisita este na attikulu layeye pot mauleg na ehetsisiu i para ta offisiona inatan asuntun linahyan gi hilu` antau na hinisga yan estuidiu. Atan hafa i asuntu, eksamina haf` tinateña, kau estudiau yan haf` ileleña i estuidiu, hafa hinasson i pumalu kontra yan fabot. Manu na patte dinanche. Gi hilu` pinasensia yan hinimidde siempre mas antau todou ta petsige na asunto-ta.

Hagas bisioghu sumehan ñaihon pot para bai` ebalua, analisa yan komprende i asuntu. Ni u kikulugol mage gi halom rimulinon aplacha` na fache` sisonyan hasupak, siempre u klaru dispues `nai ketu i milag hanom. Pasensiaye pot para ta atbansa kinemprenden tautau-ta.

Inadisguston Mañgatoliko

Hu taitai, ebalua yan analisa i disniskontentu entalu` mañgatoliko yan archbishop i Diocese Hagatña. I mafotman un` grupu ha dema-

manda eksplikasion gi `nos kuantos asuntu pot para u aseguara numa` lu tatte inetnon mañgatoliko. Si Archbishop Anthony Apuron ha ñega umoppe finaisen tautauña dispues ha kolat ñaihongue` gi halom ridundu.

I asuntun che`chu` tautau ya guiya solu si Apuron siña muna` katma tatte i chubaskun yan lañgat inadisgustu pot lamayot patte ha tobus gi un` banda dimas de u eksplika dibuenamente ya u rikohe gi hilu` hinimidde i tautauña gi hilu` sinsiyu na diniseha.

I grupon mañgatoliko ni ineluluye as Señor Greg Perez yan David J. Sablan sinsiyu na diniseha guaha para una` guaha pas, inafamauleg yan satton na inetnon mañgatoliko sa` hagas metgot dinaña natibu gi tradision relihion niha deste antes.

Debi si Apuron u pula` i ginatdun ensegidas gi hilu` klaru yan sinsiyu na ineppe. Munga na pot heñiun presonidu umapgau mas i tautau-mu. Taya` presisu na para u fan matrata kulan naufragu. Chogue este gi hilu` hinimidde yan kinemprende!

Si Yuus Maase` Nan Upe

Didog ha gomgom korason-hu madisponen tiahua as Nan Upe` (Guadalupe P. Manglona) pa`gu na semana. Ensegidas ha baba bintanan yine`ase` yan tinayuyot gi un` tiahua ni sumakrifisiague` para u ayuda ham `nai matai si tatan mame gi 1955.

Megai na ayudu hana` e ham guihe na tiempu yan tihun mame as David M. Sablan. Deste magagu, salape yan kosas siha mana` fan mafattu ginen Guam para mantension mame. Ti apasiyon ayu na ayudu siha piot i oppan na sensian yine`ase ginen korason niha gi numesessita ayudu.

Ginen ayudun niha mina` siña in` tampe tatautau mame yan manachu ham gi todou kareran mame maseha sumen chatsaga ayu na tiempu. Ayu na sensian kilisyanu sumen ti apasiyon. Mit besis

Why we aren’t winning wars

The United States has the most potent military in terms of firepower and operational capacity in history. Our military overthrew Saddam Hussein and crushed the Taliban in a matter of weeks. Our forces can direct a rocket from Nevada through a window in Kandahar, Afghanistan, and nimbly set up nearly 20 Ebola treatment centers in Liberia.

Yet this same military, as writer James Fallows recently pointed out in the Atlantic, has not won its wars in Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya or anywhere else in the last 20 years—if winning means creating a stable, capable and ideally democratic governing structure that is able and willing to police its own territory. After the United States poured billions of dollars into the Iraqi army, it fell apart in the face of a few thousand initially lightly armed Islamic State fighters.

Conditions in Afghanistan are in some ways far better than they were before 9/11: Life expectancy has jumped by more than five years; and many more children, girls as well as boys, attend school. But the Taliban remains an active threat. Kabul is haunted by the fear of terrorist attacks. Foreigners have fled. Opium production is up. Corruption is rampant. In Iraq, Nouri Maliki has resigned as prime minister, but the likelihood that Iraq will become a well-governed unified state is nil even if Islamic State is degraded over time. Libya is descending into chaos.

We have not lost because the military and its leaders failed to adapt or because military resources were misdirected. We have lost because we—our civilian leaders, our country—have accepted objectives that are not attainable. Our goal has been to put countries on the road to modernity, to move them toward well-governed, prosperous, democratic states that respect human rights, have an active civil society, treat women and men as equals, have a free press, ex-

tend the rule of law to all members of society and encourage market-oriented economic activity.

Our military knows how to fight effectively against an enemy as unconventional as the Taliban, al-Qaida or Islamic State, but also how to train their Iraqi and Afghan counterparts to pull off complicated military maneuvers.

But what our military cannot do—what no one can do—is to transform domestic political and economic institutions in these countries. We, our leaders and our people, are guilty of assuming that the United States is not only a “city on a hill” but also the natural model for how human beings should organize political authority. We think that modern liberal democracy is what many countries should aspire to and that, absent obstacles, it will spring into existence. This is a chimera.

For most of human history in most of the world, rulers who wield power have invariably acted in their own self-interest. Controlling the state is the path to personal wealth and power. Corruption is not an aberration; it is the lubricant that makes their governing possible. Modern election outcomes in these places are often perverted or produce leaders who have no interest in sustaining accountable governance, even though the U.S. has spent hundreds of millions of dollars to provide technical election assistance, support political parties and civil society organizations, and establish election monitors.

It does not matter how well our military is trained, how wisely we deploy our defense dollars or how conscientious our politicians might be. Our military intervention cannot put these countries on the path to modernity. We must change our goals if we are to enhance our own national security and provide a better life for the citi-

Do Republicans really want Bush or Romney?

By JONATHAN BERNSTEIN
BLOOMBERG NEWS

The last time I considered the possibility of Mitt Romney 2016, I said he technically counts as a viable candidate, but realistically it just isn’t going to happen. Romney managed to get everyone’s attention on Friday by yawning and stretching in the direction of another White House run, but I’m not changing my mind. At least not yet.

The Prospect’s Paul Waldman, who takes Romney ‘16 a lot more seriously, makes the case for what Romney may be thinking. Waldman points out that all presidential candidates are incredibly ambitious and that Romney is almost certainly hearing from everyone around him about how he’d be a better contender than anyone else. He may believe that if he can polish off Jeb Bush, he’ll be able to mop up the others the way he mopped up Newt Gingrich, Michele Bachmann and Rick Santorum in 2012.

One way to look at what Romney and Bush have been up to the last couple of years is as a kind of shadowboxing contest where each tries to establish himself as a serious candidate to persuade the other to drop out. The assumption is that whichever of these presumed heavyweights runs will have an easy path to the nomination.

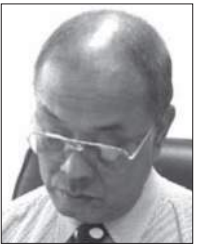
It’s possible they are correct. Republican party actors might be so desperate for a recognizable order to the campaign and familiar names that they will simply flock to Bush or Romney. But it’s at least as likely that real enthusiasm for Romney in particular, and perhaps for Bush as well, doesn’t extend far beyond their relatively small circle of loyalists, and that most party actors—politicians, campaign and governing professionals, donors and activists, party officials and staff, party-aligned interest groups and media—are more than ready to move on.

Certainly, the potential candidates (running undeclared for now)—Marco Rubio, Scott Walker, Mike Pence, John Kasich and perhaps a few others—are a much more formidable bunch than the Herman Cains of 2012. (Returning candidate Mike Huckabee appears to be

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



mas na bendision ginen hilu` para siha pot ti ma-upus lumagnos kanai niha gi man-chatsaga.

Lokue`, kada mattu mage Saipan ha bisisita i defunta nanahu, tatnai fatta. Ti maliñgu respetuhu nu guiya ya magahet tiahua ti siña hu apase tatte todou ayudumu siha.

Lau bai` tayuyute hau diariu gi nobena-hu St. Jude ni hu tucha deste 1997 ya tatnai masge` tinayuyot-hu deste ayu na tiempu. Manpinite ham ya i lagu` mame umarega gi mapagahes ya u fresku kareramu hulu` gi lañget para un` resibe un` guaguan na premiu. Si Yuus gachoñgmu. Si Yuus Maase` pot todou Auntie Upe`. Si Juñan Denañg yan familia.

Man-malag na trosun man-sañgan (speeches) man-gugupu ginen hegsu` I Deni gi mapos na Lunes. Hu e`ekuñgog i ekun pineduñg palabra siha taimanu rinisaken tasi. Palabran esperansa lau i hagas problema sige ha` ma-umenta ya puede magahet guaha satton na satbasion.

I lehislatura taya` nuebu na kinemiten para umachogue che`chu` linahyan fuera ke para u fan mafanague i man-nuebu na membro bailan “fayao” yan “kumahat” gi entalu dos guma`. Ai, ta ekstende magof na felisitasion gi nuebu na batkadan man-ma`gas. Siempre tali’e dispues haf` para umachogue. Gaige ha` i guatdian i sagua`. Si Iku.

By STEPHEN D. KRASNER

Los Angeles Times

Stephen D. Krasner is a professor of political science and a senior fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies and the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.



zens of the countries where we send our men and women to fight.

Our objective should be “good enough” governance, which means ensuring that a state is capable of keeping order within its own boundaries—at least enough order to contain transnational terrorists. The provision of this order may sometimes be arbitrary and brutal. Maintaining order in some countries might require an American military whose primary mission would be to degrade transnational terrorist entities and perhaps intervene to maintain a balance of power among local strongmen.

Where ethnic conflicts have eroded trust, we should encourage decentralization. Ideally, “good enough” governance would include providing some public services such as healthcare and primary education that would not threaten the local elite’s ability to extract resources and stay in power. Some degree of economic growth might be possible provided we recognize that these rulers always require their cut of the profits.

Unless we accept that our Wilsonian aspirations are unreachable and counterproductive, the United States will not be able to align its assets—military and civilian—with policies that have a chance of keeping us safer. Such a development just might leave some countries better off than they were before we intervened.

more formidable than Rick Santorum was in 2012; for that matter, Rick Perry 2016 might have his act together and be a more serious contender than Rick Perry 2012 was.)

What we need now is some reporting about what Republican party actors, especially the ones outside the Bush and Romney orbits, are thinking. While we’ve had indications that some big-money donors want a recognizable candidate right now, it isn’t at all clear how deep that sentiment goes.


If Romney and Bush really are monopolizing resources, we should be seeing otherwise viable candidates begin to drop out of the race, as Rob Portman of Ohio already did back in early December. If we don’t see others give up soon, then Romney and Bush are less formidable than some now believe—or else Republican party actors still aren’t convinced they are really in the race.

Jonathan Bernstein is a Bloomberg View columnist. Readers may send him email at jbernstein62@bloomberg.net.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers. East winds 20 to 25 mph.

▲83° ▼79°


FRIDAY



Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. Southeast winds 15 to 20 mph.

▲83° ▼79°


SATURDAY



Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.

▲83° ▼79°


SUNDAY



Mostly sunny with isolated showers.

▲83° ▼79°

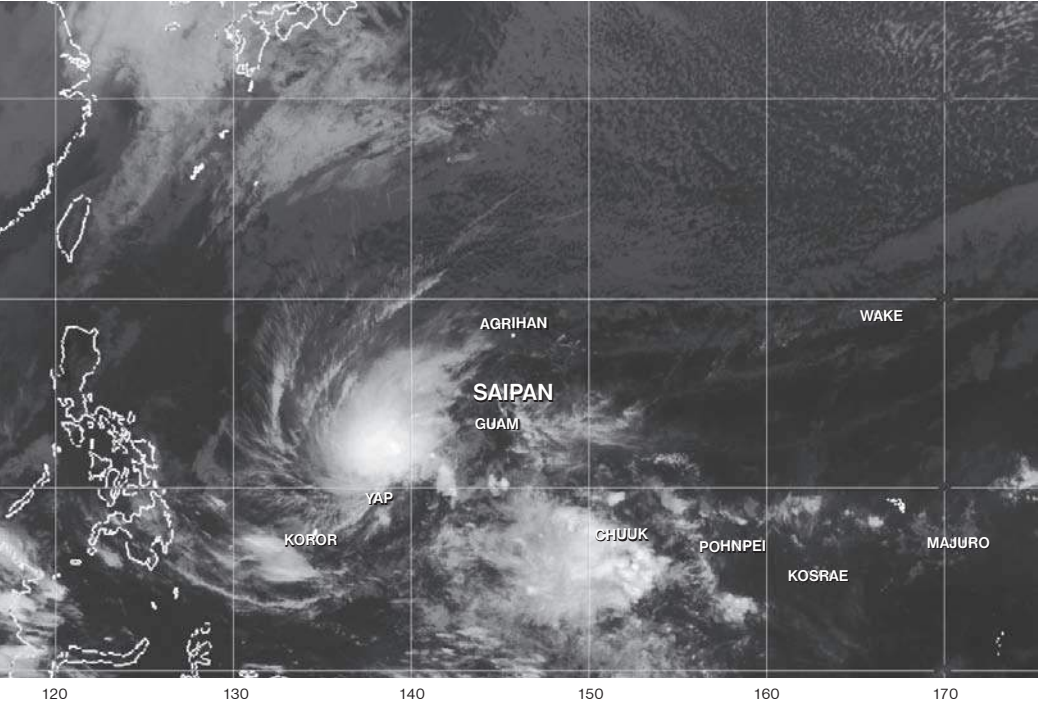
MONDAY



Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.

▲83° ▼79°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2015
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

At 11 am CHST Tropical Depression 01W was centered near 10N 140E or about 390 miles southwest of Guam moving northwest at 13 miles per hour. All of the deep convection associated with this depression is in the northwest quadrant with cumulonimbus clouds rising to heights of 60 thousand feet. The depression remains within a kink of a trough which runs from 6N 131E to 10N 140E to 2N 152E. Scattered thunderstorms are within 200 miles of the trough east of 145E. Scattered to broken debris cirrus clouds are being advected over the Mariana Islands obscuring lower clouds. A frontal boundary is located along a curve from 25N 180E to 20N 170E to 18N 160E to 17N 150E. The front is moving to the southeast at 10 to 20 miles per hour with stratocumulus cloud elements behind the front moving to the east at 30 miles per hour near 25N and moving to the south around 10 miles per hour near 17N. Stratocumulus and cumulus clouds are along and north of the front rising to height of 12 thousand feet. The inter tropical convergence zone now extends into the weak area of convergence found near eastern Micronesia. Scattered cumulus with isolated towering cumulus cells are observed within 150 miles of a curve from 8N 180E to 10N 174E to 7N 170E to 9N 160E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼81
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstoms	▲84	▼80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼79

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲81	▼62
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲44	▼23
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲66	▼53
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲82	▼66
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲45	▼45
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲72	▼51
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼70
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲70	▼55
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼64
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲35	▼24
Osaka	Rain	▲45	▼39
Paris	Showers	▲47	▼43
Pusan	Cloudy	▲54	▼33
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲50	▼39
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲53	▼33
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲62	▼47
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲47	▼26
Tokyo	Rain	▲50	▼41
Washington, DC	Snow	▲34	▼29



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
3:33 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.3 Feet
8:23 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
2:35 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
10:06 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:47 AM	6:07 PM
Friday	6:47 AM	6:07 PM
Saturday	6:47 AM	6:08 PM
Sunday	6:47 AM	6:08 PM
Monday	6:47 AM	6:09 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	1:22 AM	1:16 AM
Friday	2:14 AM	2:03 PM
Saturday	3:09 AM	2:55 PM
Sunday	4:07 AM	3:51 PM
Monday	5:05 AM	4:51 PM

NEWS DESK

For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION

Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING

For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 5, 2015											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN					
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3			UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3		
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7			UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7		
UA5039	2:20pm	4:00pm	6, 7 via Rota			UA5039	1:00pm	1:50pm	6, 7		
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 5			UA5038	1:10pm	2:40pm	2, 4 via Rota		
UA5038	3:10pm	4:00pm	2, 4			UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 5		
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5			UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5		
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7			UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7		
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5			UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5		
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)					
UA5039	2:20pm	2:55pm	6, 7			UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4		
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN					
UA5039	3:25pm	4:00pm	6, 7			UA5038	2:05pm	2:40pm	2, 4		
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)						PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	1:10am+1	2, 6 via NRT			DL298	4:35am	3:00pm	3, 7 via NRT		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6			DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily		
DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	Daily			DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1			OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily		
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			7C 3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily		
OZ6063	3:20am	7:10am	3, 4, 6, 7			OZ605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7		
OZ604	3:20pm	7:10pm	Daily			OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
7C 3401	4:30pm	8:20pm	Daily			OZ6053	8:50pm	2:10am+1	2, 3, 5, 6		
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
3U8648	6:00am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	1, 4, 5, 7			MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN					
3U8646	4:30am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:55pm	3:10am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN			OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN		
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			PR110/UA5041	7:35am	6:25pm	1,5 via GUM		
UA5069/PR111	2:45am	4:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM			PR110/UA5077	7:35am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5070/191	4:15am	7:20am	2, 7 via GUM			PR110/UA5043	7:35am	10:10pm	1, 5 via GUM		
UA5070/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM			DL172/288	9:40am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT		
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 7 via GUM		
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA190/5077	10:00am	8:05pm	3, 6 via GUM		
DL287/275	6:05am	9:35pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT			OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA5071/PR111	6:40am	4:50pm	3 via GUM			OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5071/PR111	7:15am	4:50pm	1, 5, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/5071	10:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:50pm	3 via GUM			UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/5039	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	6, 7 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/5038	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	4 via GUM-Rota		
UA5039/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA184/5077	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	1 via GUM		
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM			UA184/5041	10:55pm	6:25pm+1	1 via GUM		
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:30pm	5 via GUM			UA184/5077	10:55pm	8:05pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:50pm	1 via GUM			UA184/5043	10:55pm	10:10pm+1	1 via GUM		
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:50pm	4 via GUM			UA184/5071	10:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM		
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN			UA184/5038	10:59pm	2:40pm+1	2 via GUM-Rota		
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN					
OZ606/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN		
OZ606/723	2:10am	12:50pm	1 via ICN			OZ750/603	1:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN		
OZ606/721	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
OZ606/723	2:40am	12:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ724/605	2:20pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA5070/179	4:15am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5068/179	8:00am	10:35pm	3 via GUM			OZ724/605	2:20pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5068/179	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM			UA180/5071	10:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM		
UA5039/179	2:20pm	10:35pm	6 via Rota-GUM			UA180/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 5, 6 via GUM		
UA5078/179	3:10pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via GUM			UA180/5039	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM		
OZ604/749	3:20pm	10:30pm	Daily via ICN			UA180/5077	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota		
						UA180/5041	10:55pm	6:25pm+1	1, 5 via GUM		
						UA180/5077	10:55pm	8:05pm+1	3, 6 via GUM		
						UA180/5043	10:55pm	10:10pm+1	1, 5 via GUM		

Business

World Bank cuts 2015 forecast for global economy

WASHINGTON (AP)—The World Bank, citing stagnation in Europe and Japan and a slow-down in China, downgraded its forecast for the global economy this year. It also reported that world economic growth came in below expectations in 2014.

The bank predicts the world economy will expand 3 percent this year, up from 2.6 percent in 2014. Last June, World Bank economists had forecast 3.4 percent global economic growth this year and 2.8 percent last year.

“The recovery has been sputtering in the Euro Area and Japan as legacies of the financial crisis linger ... China, meanwhile, is undergoing a carefully managed slowdown,” the bank said Tuesday in the first of its twice-yearly Global Economic Prospects reports for 2015.

Plunging oil prices and stronger growth in the United States are expected to help boost global growth in 2015.

The bank expects the U.S. economy to grow 3.2 percent this year, up from 2.4 percent in 2014.



AP
A man walks past an electronic stock indicator in Tokyo Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2015.

1.8 percent in 2014. Developing countries will grow 4.8 percent, an improvement from 4.4 percent in 2014.

The bank sees risks that could spoil its forecast. There’s potential for a financial crisis if investors pull money out of emerging markets to take advantage of rising interest rates and improving economic prospects in the United States. That could cause emerging market currencies to plummet and squeeze companies that borrowed in U.S. dollars—a partial replay of the Asian financial crisis of 1997-1998.

Conflict in Ukraine and the Middle East could disrupt economic growth. The Chinese economy could tumble into a “disorderly slowdown.” Sub-Saharan African economies, expected to grow a healthy 4.6 percent in 2015, could be devastated instead if the Ebola outbreak isn’t contained.

Growth among the 19 countries that use the euro currency is expected to pick up modestly—to 1.1 percent in 2015 from 0.8 percent last year. Likewise,

the Japanese economy is expected to rebound to 1.2 percent growth this year from 0.2 percent in 2014.

The bank expects China’s

economy to expand 7.1 percent this year, down from 7.4 percent in 2014. The slowdown reflects in part the Chinese government’s effort to

rein in excessive lending and wasteful investment.

Overall, the bank expects high-income countries to grow 2.2 percent this year, up from

Japan approves record \$814 billion budget after tax hike

TOKYO (AP)—Japan’s Cabinet approved a record 96.3 trillion yen (\$814 billion) government budget for the coming fiscal year Wednesday after a tax hike to accommodate rising outlays for social security and defense.

Rising revenues following the sales tax increase last April enabled Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to raise spending without increasing the proportion financed by new government bonds, though the total national debt is still about twice the size of the economy.

Abe’s government must tread

a fine line between spending enough to support growth and slowing the rise in debt, which is the highest, proportionately, among industrialized countries.

Passage of the budget approved Wednesday morning is almost certain since the ruling Liberal Democratic Party’s coalition with the small Komeito party has majorities in both houses of parliament.

As Japan’s population ages quickly, welfare costs are soaring. Social security spending will account for about a third of

the budget. The economy is in recession but the government has forecast growth at 1.5 percent this year, after an estimated 0.5 percent contraction in 2014.

To balance his conflicting priorities, Abe is increasing outlays targeting families and other households that are struggling as wages lag behind price increases. But he also intends to cut corporate income taxes by 2.5 percentage points in the fiscal year that begins April 1, to 32.11 percent. Further cuts are planned.

The government is also

tweaking tax rules to encourage elderly Japanese, who hold about 60 percent of the country’s 1.6 quadrillion yen (\$13.6 trillion) in private savings, to spend more on their children and grandchildren.

The increase in revenues thanks to the April 1, 2014 increase in the national sales tax to 8 percent from 5 percent has enabled the government to slightly reduce the share of the budget funded by issuing new bonds, to about 38 percent from over 40 percent.

US aims to cut methane emissions by nearly half

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Obama administration is putting the energy industry on notice that it intends to curb methane emissions by nearly half through regulations affecting oil and gas production.

A broad, preliminary plan—expected to be unveiled this week—aims to cut emissions 40-45 percent by 2025 compared with 2012 levels. Reductions are to come from a mix of voluntary steps by industry and regulations from both the Environmental Protection Agency and the Interior Department, according to two people familiar with the plan.

President Barack Obama has long wanted to cut methane as part of his broader effort to slow global warming. Concerns about emissions of methane, a potent greenhouse gas, have grown amid a boom in natural gas drilling. Natural gas is also known as methane, and sometimes it tends to leak during production.

The oil and gas industry has insisted such rules aren’t necessary because the industry

is already working to reduce methane leakage. Yet environmentalists and some scientists argue that without methane controls, the ongoing shift from coal to natural gas will have less of an environmental benefit.

The administration’s methane goal, first reported by The New York Times, is aspirational, lacking key specifics about what regulations will be needed.

Last year, the White House said the EPA would study how methane is released during drilling and determine whether to develop new regulations. Although the administration has now decided to move ahead, the formal rule-making process will not start until later this year, said the individuals, who requested anonymity because the plan hasn’t been announced publicly.

Methane makes up about 9 percent of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions, according to government estimates, but is roughly 21 times more powerful at trapping heat in the atmosphere.

Republicans press attacks on Obama agenda

WASHINGTON (AP)—Defiant congressional Republicans attacked President Barack Obama’s agenda from all sides Tuesday, ignoring veto threats and pushing bills to uproot his policies on immigration and Wall Street, force approval of energy pipeline legislation he opposes and make him justify any new federal rules before he makes them.

Obama invited his antagonists to the White House for their first face-to-face meeting since the new Republican-controlled Congress convened. But their

show of cordiality for the cameras did little to mask the partisan hostilities between Capitol Hill and the White House.

“The key now is for us to work as a team,” said Obama, who has issued five veto threats with the new Congress not yet two weeks old. He cited taxes, trade and cybersecurity as areas for potential cooperation, and also told lawmakers he would work with them to come up with a proposal to authorize military force against the Islamic State group.

Back at the Capitol, the Sen-

ate debated legislation to force the administration to allow construction of the Canada-to-Texas Keystone XL oil pipeline. And the House passed a regulatory reform bill that the White House says would impose “unprecedented and unnecessary” requirements on agencies trying to write rules. It would require more justifications and notice.

That was to be followed by votes Wednesday on two other bills: One would alter a key section of the 2010 Dodd-Frank financial overhaul in a way that

would help banks, and the other would block Obama’s executive actions on immigration, including removal of protections for immigrants who arrived in the country illegally as children. The Keystone bill passed the House last week and is expected to clear the Senate next week and head to Obama’s desk.

Obama has threatened to veto all four pieces of legislation. Far from cowed, with the Senate in GOP hands for the first time in eight years Republican lawmakers are ready to make him do it.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
17,613.68	2,023.03	4,661.50
-27.16	-5.23	-3.21
-0.15%	-0.26%	-0.07%

EXCHANGE RATES

Hong Kong Dollar	7.7536	Philippine Peso	44.6725
Australian Dollar	1.2354	Singapore Dollar	1.3355
British Pound	0.6594	South Korean Won	1079.95
Canadian Dollar	1.1982	Swiss Franc	1.0185
Chinese Yuan	6.1919	Taiwan Dollar	31.805
Euro	0.8482	Thailand Baht	32.792



TRUCKLOAD STORE direct from K MART

AMAZING DEALS ON DAILY ESSENTIALS, QUALITY BRANDS AND MUST-HAVE ELECTRONICS! • OPEN: Thursday and Friday 11am to 7pm • Saturday 9am to 7pm



BEGINNINGS
BY SAUDER
COMPUTER
TABLE
\$59⁹⁵



\$31⁹⁵ INTEX INFLATABLE
EMPIRE CHAIR
\$87⁹⁵ ESSENTIAL HOME
BERKLEY CORNER DESK



JACLYN SMITH 5PC
MAHOGANY DINING SET
\$329⁹⁵



ESSENTIAL HOME 3PC
TAVERN SET
\$149⁹⁵



COSCO 5PC VINYL
TABLE TOP & CHAIR
\$89⁹⁵



ESSENTIAL HOME BEDFORD
ENTERTAINMENT CENTER
\$299⁹⁵



SEIKI 32"
LED TV

\$349⁹⁵



LG 5,000 BTU
A/C REFURBISH
IN THE USA
\$169⁹⁵



HAMILTON
BEACH
LARGE
COUNTER
TOP OVEN
WITH
ROTISSERIE
\$129⁹⁵



PROCTOR SILEX
5 SPEED HAND MIXER
\$13⁹⁵



HAMPTON FORGE TOMADACHI
10PC CUTLERY SET
\$59⁹⁵



PROCTOR SILEX 1.7LT
CORDLESS ELECTRIC KETTLE
\$21⁹⁵



HAMILTON BEACH SS
10 CUP ELECTRIC KETTLE
\$43⁹⁵



AS SEEN ON TV SPICY
SHELF ORGANIZER
\$25⁹⁵



HEALTHMASTER ELITE
\$99⁹⁵

PRIMO
WATER
DISPENSER
\$169⁹⁵



KENMORE 18CUFT REFRIGERATOR
\$799⁹⁵



KENMORE 7 CU FT CHEST FREEZER
\$399⁹⁵



PROCTOR SILEX
4 SLICE TOASTER
\$26⁹⁵



PROCTOR SILEX
0.7 CFT
MICROWAVE OVEN
\$75⁹⁵



CRAFTSMAN
2.5GAL WET/DRY
VACUUM
\$39⁹⁵



BISSELL
SPOTCLEAN
WITH HEATWAVE
TECHNOLOGY
\$159⁹⁵



TRELLIS LOW
BACK STACKABLE
PLASTIC CHAIR
\$9⁹⁵



ESSENTIAL HOME
30 PAIR
SHOE RACK
\$12⁹⁵



KENMORE COMFORT
20" BOX FAN
\$26⁹⁵



BODY CHAMP
GRAVITY
INVERSION SYSTEM
\$149⁹⁵



JOE BOXER
PILLOW
STANDARD
SIZE
\$5⁹⁵



NORTHWEST TERRITORY
4FT CENTER FOLD TABLE
\$59⁹⁵



SLEEPMASTER SMART
BASE TWIN/FULL SIZE
\$119⁹⁵



BESTWAY
SWIM SAFE
ARMBANDS
\$1⁹⁵



ASSORTED
CHARACTERS
SWIM
GOOGLES
\$1⁹⁵

SAFETY 1ST
POTTY TRAINER
& STEP STOOL
COMFORT CUSHY
\$22⁹⁵



Come and visit us at the Triple J Wholesale Store
We reserve the right to limit quantity purchases on all items.

For more info, please call: 322-0430



Nation

Tsarnaev lawyers: Suspend jury selection over Paris attacks

BOSTON (AP)—Lawyers for Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev asked a judge on Tuesday to suspend jury selection in his trial for at least a month because the recent terrorist attacks in France have again placed the marathon bombings “at the center of a grim global drama.”

The lawyers said a delay would allow some time “for the extraordinary prejudice flowing from these events—and the comparison of those events to those at issue in this case—to diminish.”

They said potential jurors have been instructed to avoid media reports about Tsarnaev’s case, but were exposed to reports about the French attacks. Jury selection began last week.

“Almost immediately after the attacks, the press, politicians, and

commentators drew parallels between the French attacks and the Boston Marathon bombing,” the lawyers wrote.

In the marathon case, authorities say Tsarnaev and his older brother, Tamerlan Tsarnaev, planned and carried out the attack as retaliation for U.S. wars in Muslim countries. Three people were killed and more than 260 were wounded when twin bombs exploded at the finish line April 15, 2013.

Tamerlan was killed in a shootout with police days after the bombings. Dzhokhar, 21, could face the death penalty if convicted.

In the Paris attacks, two gunmen, brothers Cherif and Said Kouachi burst into the offices of the French satirical magazine *Charlie Hebdo*, killing 12 people. A total of 17 people

were shot dead in the three-day terrorist killing spree, including four hostages. The Kouachi brothers and a third gunman were killed by police.

While “Boston Strong” became the slogan used to show unity following the marathon attacks, “Je suis Charlie” (“I am Charlie”) has become a popular slogan since the Paris attacks.

The Paris attacks began Jan. 7, which was the third day of jury selection in Tsarnaev’s trial in Boston. More than 1,350 prospective jurors have been called in to federal court to fill out lengthy juror questionnaires. The judge is scheduled to begin questioning individual jurors Thursday.

Tsarnaev’s lawyers have asked repeatedly to delay the trial and to move it outside Massachusetts, where almost everyone

seems to know someone connected to the marathon or personally affected by the 2013 bombings. Federal Judge George O’Toole Jr. has rejected the defense requests.

“Even before the Paris attacks, there was no modern precedent of which we are aware for attempting to seat an impartial jury in a community that had been so recently, so grievously, and so widely affected by a single series of crimes,” the defense lawyers wrote Tuesday.

“Now, at the very moment this attempt is to be made, the Boston bombings are being newly placed at the center of a grim global drama. At a minimum, the court should pause long enough to let this latest storm subside,” they wrote.

Legal analysts said earlier Tuesday that the French terror at-

tacks could provide new grounds for Tsarnaev’s lawyers to argue for a delay or for moving the trial outside Boston.

Jeffrey Abramson, a professor of law and government at the University of Texas at Austin, said that if he were one of Tsarnaev’s lawyers, he would ask for a delay of three to six months “until the Paris comparison fades a bit.”

“Whatever scabbing or healing had begun to take place, the Boston wound is freshly ripped open by the events in Paris,” said Abramson, who has written extensively about the jury system in the United States.

Abramson said it would be difficult for any jury pool not to see similarities between the two cases and be potentially influenced by them.

ACROSS THE NATION

Mother of teen to Islamic State: ‘Leave our children alone!’

CHICAGO (AP)—The suburban Chicago mother of a 19-year-old American facing a terrorist charge for trying to join Islamic State militants accused the group on Tuesday of brainwashing youths into joining their ranks via social media. And she declared, “Leave our children alone!” Mohammed Hamzah Khan’s mother cried softly as she read her statement in a federal courthouse lobby in Chicago. Minutes earlier, her son appeared in orange jail garb in an upstairs courtroom to plead not guilty to attempting to provide material support to a foreign terrorist group. Zarine Khan, flanked by her husband, Shafi, said her family felt compelled to speak out in the wake of “unspeakable acts of horror” in Paris last week that killed 17.

Officer stands trial in 95-year-old’s beanbag shooting death

MARKHAM, Ill. (AP)—A suburban Chicago police officer had better and safer options than to fire beanbags to subdue a confused, knife-wielding 95-year-old World War II veteran, a prosecutor told the court Tuesday at the outset of the officer’s trial on a felony reckless conduct charge in the man’s death. With all of their police equipment, training and “common sense,” Craig Taylor and the other Park Forest officers didn’t have to storm into John Wrana’s room at an assisted living center on July 26, 2013, Cook County State’s Attorney Lynn McCarthy said during her opening statements. They did so, though, and Taylor ended up firing five beanbags at Wrana, including the fatal one that struck his abdomen and caused internal bleeding, she said.

Jodi Arias revealed few new details in closed-door testimony

PHOENIX (AP)—Convicted murderer Jodi Arias’ closed-door testimony two months ago at her sentencing retrial revealed few new details about her actions in killing her former boyfriend—and no specifics about why she was allowed to speak to the jury

in secret. Transcripts of the testimony were released Tuesday, weeks after an appeals court threw out a judge’s decision to bar the public from the courtroom while Arias was on the stand. At the time, the judge explained the witness, whose name was then kept secret, was skittish and wouldn’t testify in public. The release of the transcripts came after news organizations protested the closure.

Georgia executes man for killing a deputy in traffic stop

JACKSON, Ga. (AP)—A man who fatally shot a sheriff’s deputy who stopped him for speeding on a Georgia interstate was put to death Tuesday for the 1998 killing, which was captured on the patrol car’s video camera. Andrew Howard Brannan, 66, was pronounced dead at 8:33 p.m. Tuesday after a single-drug injection at the state prison in Jackson. He was convicted of the January 1998 shooting death of Kyle Dinkheller, a 22-year-old sheriff’s deputy in Laurens County, central Georgia. “I extend my condolences to the Dinkheller family, especially Kyle’s parents and his wife and his two children,” Brannan said in a statement moments before the injection was administered.

\$5M settlement reached in Connecticut fire

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)—A contractor who accidentally caused a fire at a Connecticut home that killed three girls and two of their grandparents on Christmas 2011 has agreed to settle part of a wrongful-death lawsuit by paying the children’s father \$5 million. Court records obtained by The Associated Press show that the contractor, Michael Borcina, and his company settled Matthew Badger’s lawsuit in Hartford Superior Court on Dec. 10. Badger’s lawyer confirmed the settlement amount Tuesday. The fire in Stamford killed 7-year-old twins Grace and Sarah Badger, 9-year-old Lily Badger and their maternal grandparents, Lomer and Pauline Johnson. The girls’ mother, Madonna Badger, and Borcina were dating at the time and escaped the fire.

2 Yosemite climbers closing in on historic feat



In this Jan. 9, 2015 photo provided by Tom Evans, Kevin Jorgeson climbs on what is known as pitch 15 during what has been called the hardest rock climb in the world: a free climb of El Capitan, the largest monolith of granite in the world, a half-mile section of exposed granite in California’s Yosemite National Park.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Two climbers trying to become the first in the world to use only their hands and feet to scale a sheer granite face in Yosemite National Park in California are almost to the top, a spokeswoman said Tuesday.

Kevin Jorgeson, 30, of Santa Rosa, California, and Tommy Caldwell, 36, of Colorado will likely finish the climb up El Capitan’s Dawn Wall on Wednesday evening, said Jess Clayton, who represents Patagonia, a sponsor of Caldwell.

For 17 days, the two men have been attempting what many thought impossible.



They are free-climbing to the 3,000-foot (914-meter) summit, meaning they don’t use climbing aids, just harnesses and ropes to prevent deadly falls.

Each trained for more than five years, and they have battled bloodied fingers and unseasonably warm weather.

Jorgeson fell 11 times over seven days trying to get past one tough section. He took to Facebook on Sunday to publicly celebrate his victory.

“It took everything in my power to stay positive and resolved that I would succeed,” he wrote of his continued attempt to get past the

grueling section.

The climb began on Dec. 27 and was expected to take two weeks. If the men finish Wednesday, they will have been on the wall closer to three weeks.

El Capitan, the largest granite monolith in the world, has about 100 routes to the top. The first climber reached the summit in 1958.

In 1970, Warren Harding and Dean Caldwell—no relation to Tommy Caldwell—climbed Dawn Wall using ropes and countless rivets over 27 days. The duo turned down a rescue attempt by park rangers in a storm.

Asia

Pope presses Sri Lankan unity call with Mass, Tamil visit

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)—Pope Francis pressed his call for Sri Lankan unity and reconciliation Wednesday with a Mass in Colombo to canonize the country's first saint and a visit to the war-ravaged north to pray at a shrine revered by both Sinhalese and Tamil faithful.

Tens of thousands of people waving Vatican flags packed the capital's seafont park for the Mass, with some spending the night under the stars to ensure a good spot. Seemingly rested after a grueling first day of his Asian tour, Francis arrived well ahead of time to greet the crowd, getting off his popemobile to kiss the sick and handicapped.

Bells rang out and the crowd erupted in applause when Francis declared the Rev. Joseph Vaz a saint at the start of the service. Vaz was a 17th century Indian missionary who revived the faith in Sri Lanka during a time of anti-Catholic persecution by Dutch colonists, who were Protestant Calvinists.

The Catholic Church considers Vaz a great model for today's faithful, ministering to the faithful of both Sri Lanka's ethnic groups and putting



AP
Pope Francis, center, arrives at Colombo's seafont Galle Face Green for the canonization ceremony of Joseph Vaz, Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2015.

loving commitment to the welfare of all."

After Mass, Francis was to fly by helicopter to the northern city of Madhu to pray at the Our Lady of Madhu shrine. The visit is the first by a pope to the northern Tamil territory that was devastated by Sri Lanka's 25-year civil war, which erupted in 1983 with Tamil demands for an independent homeland because of perceived discrimination by the Sinhalese majority.

Francis is expected to call again for reconciliation between Sinhalese and Tamils, and people of different faiths, to overcome the wounds of the war.

Upon his arrival in Sri Lanka on Tuesday, Francis called for reconciliation but also for the truth to come about the injustices committed during the war.

himself at great risk to spread the faith.

Francis told the crowd that Vaz lived at a time—like today—when Catholics were a minority and often persecuted, and yet he ministered to all,

regardless of their ethnic or religious background.

"St. Joseph shows us the importance of transcending religious divisions in the service of peace," Francis said in his homily, delivered in

English and then summarized for the crowd in both Sinhalese and Tamil. "As the life of St. Joseph Vaz teaches us, genuine worship of God bears fruit not in discrimination, hatred and violence, but

in respect for the sacredness of life, respect for the dignity and freedom of others, and

Critics dog Cambodia's leader as he marks 30 years in power

NEAK LOEUNG, Cambodia (AP)—Hun Sen, Cambodia's tough and wily prime minister, marked 30 years in power Wednesday, one of only a handful of political strongmen worldwide who have managed to cling to their posts for three decades.

Since first taking up the job of prime minister at age 33, he has consolidated power with violence and intimidation of opponents that continue to draw criticism from human rights advocates. But he could also take some credit for bringing modest economic growth and stability in a country devastated by the com-

munist Khmer Rouge's regime in the 1970s, which Hun Sen had abandoned as they left some 1.7 million people dead from starvation, disease and executions.

In a speech inaugurating the country's longest, 2,200 meter (7,200 foot) bridge across the Mekong River on Wednesday, Hun Sen, 62, defended his record, saying that only he was daring enough to tackle the Khmer Rouge and help bring peace to Cambodia.

"If Hun Sen hadn't been willing to enter the tigers' den, how could we have caught the tigers?" he said. He acknowl-

edged some shortcomings, but pleaded for observers to see the good as well as the bad in his leadership.

Born to a peasant family in east-central Cambodia, Hun Sen initially joined the Khmer Rouge against a pro-American government. He defected to Vietnam in 1977, and accompanied the Vietnamese invasion that toppled his former comrades in 1979.

The timely change of sides led to his being appointed foreign minister, then prime minister of the Vietnamese-supported regime in 1985. Since then, he

has never left the top post despite being forced to temporarily accept the title of "co-prime minister" after his party came in second in a 1993 U.N.-supervised election. Four years later, he deposed his coalition partner in a bloody coup.

"It is superficially true that relative peace and stability occurred during the reign of Hun Sen's three decades in power. But Hun Sen's 'achievements' are only relative to the blackness of the Khmer Rouge," said Theary Seng, a Cambodian-American lawyer and human rights activist.

Japan Cabinet OKs record military budget with eye on China

TOKYO (AP)—Japan's Cabinet approved the country's largest ever defense budget on Wednesday, including plans to buy surveillance aircraft, drones and F-35 fighter jets to help counter China's rising assertiveness in the region.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Cabinet endorsed a nearly 5 trillion yen (\$42 billion) defense budget for the year beginning in April as part of a record 96.3 trillion yen (\$814 billion) total budget.

The budget must still be approved by parliament, but Abe's coalition holds majorities in both houses.

The 2 percent rise in defense spending is the third annual in-

crease under Abe, who took office in December 2012 and ended 11 straight years of defense budget cuts.

The increase mainly covers new equipment, including P-1 surveillance aircraft, F-35 fighter jets and amphibious vehicles for a new unit similar to the U.S. Marine Corps. The aim is to boost Japan's capacity to defend uninhabited islands in the East China Sea that it controls but which are also claimed by China.

The 2015 budget also covers the cost of purchasing parts of "Global Hawk" drones, planned for deployment in 2019, two Aegis radar-equipped destroyers and missile defense system

development with Washington.

Abe favors a stronger role for Japan's military, despite a commitment to pacifism enshrined in the U.S.-inspired constitution drawn up after the country's defeat in World War II. Japan's defense guidelines were revised in December 2013 as tensions rose over the East China Sea islands.

Chinese patrol boats often visit waters near the islands, which are known as the Senkaku in Japan and as the Diaoyu islands in China.

The defense budget is designed to achieve "seamless and mobile" defense capability that can respond to various contingencies, the ministry said in the Cabinet-approved budget plan. It

will provide effective deterrence and contribute to stability in the Asia-Pacific region and improvement of the global security environment, the ministry said.

Abe's government must tread a fine line between spending enough to support economic growth and defense and slowing the rise in Japan's debt, which is the highest, proportionately, among industrialized countries.

As Japan's population quickly ages, welfare costs are soaring. Social security spending will account for about a third of the budget. The economy is in recession but the government has forecast growth at 1.5 percent this year, after an estimated 0.5 percent contraction in 2014.

Bootleg liquor kills at least 28 in India, 160 hospitalized

LUCKNOW, India (AP)—A bad batch of bootleg liquor killed at least 28 people and sent 160 others to hospitals in the north Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, officials said Tuesday.

Many of the victims had gathered to watch a cricket match Sunday evening in a village about 30 kilometers (20 miles) southwest of the state capital, Lucknow, government official Anil Garg said.

By midday Tuesday, 28 people had died, including 11 in a nearby village, police officer Mukul Goel said.

Doctors in Lucknow said some of those hospitalized were in serious condition and were breathing with respirators, and some had lost their eyesight.

Police arrested the shop owner who sold the pouches of homemade alcohol for about 30 cents each. A raid of the shop uncovered large containers of chemicals, which were sent to a laboratory for testing, district official R.K. Pandey said.

"The symptoms gave a clear indication that these patients were served methyl alcohol," which despite being toxic is sometimes mixed with ethyl alcohol to make a brew cheaper, said Dr. Kausar Usman, head of the trauma center at Lucknow's King George's Medical College.

Deaths from drinking ille-

gally brewed alcohol are common in India because the poor cannot afford licensed liquor.

Villager Rajesh Kumar, whose two older brothers became ill after drinking the liquor on Monday, said the shop in Datli village was well known for selling inexpensive alcohol, and that many men came from surrounding villages to buy it.

The state's highest elected official, Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav, suspended six police officers suspected of taking bribes to ignore complaints about the shop and its alcohol, and announced that a "drive will be launched against those involved in the illicit liquor trade."



Source: BBC
Graphic: Staff, TNS

World

Defiant Charlie Hebdo fronts Muhammad, drawing more threats

PARIS (AP)—In an emotional act of defiance, Charlie Hebdo resurrected its irreverent and often provocative newspaper Tuesday, featuring a caricature of the Prophet Muhammad on the cover that drew immediate criticism and threats of more violence.

The newspaper unapologetically skewered other religions as well, and bragged that Sunday's turnout of a million people at a march in Paris to condemn terrorism was larger "than for Mass."

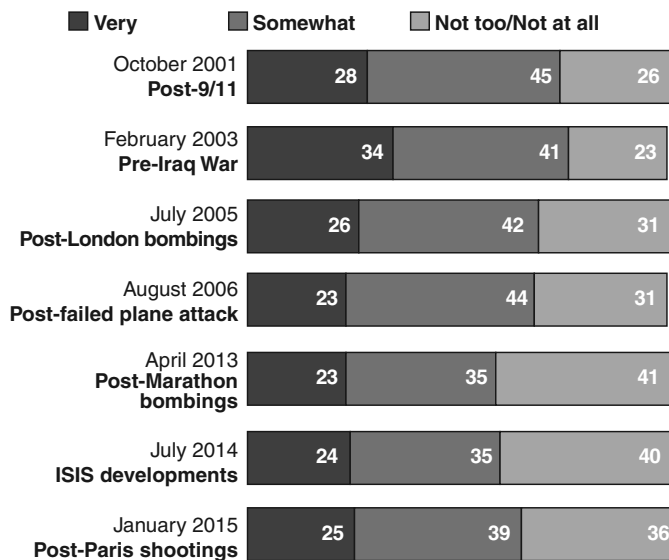
"For the past week, Charlie, an atheist newspaper, has achieved more miracles than all the saints and prophets combined," it said in the edition's lead editorial. "The one we are most proud of is that you have in your hands the newspaper that we always made."

Working out of borrowed offices, surviving staff published an unprecedented print run of 3 million copies—more than 50 times the usual circulation.

It was to appear on newsstands Wednesday, one week to the day after the assault by two masked gunmen that killed 12 people, in-

Public's concern for terrorism

Percent worried there will be another terrorist attack in the U.S.



*Don't Know responses not shown

Source: Pew Research
Graphic: Tribune News Service

cluding much of the weekly's editorial staff and two police officers. It was the beginning of three days of terror that saw 17 people killed before the three Islamic extremist attackers were gunned down by security forces.

Before the new edition was even released, one of Egypt's top

Islamic authorities had warned Charlie Hebdo against publishing more cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad. Dar al-Ifta, which is in charge of issuing religious edicts, called the planned cover an "unjustified provocation" for millions of Muslims who respect and love their prophet and

warned the cartoon would likely spark a new wave of hatred.

Indeed, criticism and threats immediately appeared on militant websites, with calls for more strikes against the newspaper and anonymous threats from radicals, according to the SITE Intelligence Group, a U.S.-based terrorism monitor.

The latest cover shows a weeping Muhammad, holding a sign reading "I am Charlie" with the words "All is forgiven" above him. Zineb El Rhazoui, a journalist with the weekly, said

the cover meant the journalists are forgiving the extremists for the attack.

Renald Luzier, the cartoonist who drew the cover image under the pen name "Luz," said it represents "just a little guy who's crying."

Then he added, unapologetically: "Yes, it is Muhammad."

Speaking at a news conference in which he repeatedly broke down crying, Luzier described weeping after he drew the picture.

"I wrote 'everything is par-

doned', and I cried," he said, adding that at that moment the staff understood the drawing would be the cover.

"It is not the cover that the world wanted us to do," he said, tearfully putting his head down on the table at one point as colleagues embraced him in a group hug.

Charlie Hebdo had faced repeated threats and a firebombing for depictions of the prophet, and its editor and his police bodyguard were the first to die. Many Muslims believe all images of the prophet are blasphemous.

12 dead in bus attack that could doom Ukraine's shaky truce

DONETSK, Ukraine (AP)—

An attack on a passenger bus in eastern Ukraine killed 12 people Tuesday, likely dealing the final blow to hopes that a short-lived and shaky cease-fire could take hold.

Across Donetsk, the city that Russian-backed separatists call their capital, explosions and the sound of shells whistling overhead are again unnerving the local population. The holiday period was spent in relative tranquility after a new truce was called in December between government troops and Russian-backed militia. But by late last week, that uneasy calm was steadily unraveling.

In the single largest loss of life so far this year, civilians traveling on a commuter bus from Donetsk were killed Tuesday afternoon by what Ukrainians say were rockets fired from a Grad launcher in rebel territory. Re-



gional authorities loyal to Kiev said the bus was passing a Ukrainian army checkpoint at the time, putting it in the line of fire.

Leading rebel representative Denis Pushilin denied responsibility for the attack.

The warring sides are now trading accusations over who is responsible for the breakdown in the truce that led to Tuesday's deaths.

Military spokesman Andriy Lysenko said that separatist attacks in recent days suggest an attempted onslaught to push back the frontline is under way. Separatist leader Alexander Zakharchenko said Ukraine's armed forces unilaterally resumed hostilities and that his fighters would respond in kind.

An AP reporter over the weekend saw a convoy of around 30 military-style trucks without license plates heading for Donetsk, suggesting that new supplies were coming in for the rebels.

NATO's top commander, Gen. Philip Breedlove, said Tuesday that there has been a continued resupply and training of rebel forces over the holiday period.

"Those continue to provide a concern and something that we have to be thinking about," Breedlove said.

Egypt court overturns last Mubarak conviction. Will he walk?

CAIRO (AP)—An appeals court on Tuesday overturned the last remaining conviction against Egypt's deposed leader Hosni Mubarak and ordered his retrial on corruption charges, opening the door for his possible release.

The ruling, just days before the fourth anniversary of the start of the 2011 anti-Mubarak uprising,

pointed to how far Egypt has moved away from its revolutionary fervor to "bring down the regime." The rise to power of President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, who has vowed stability after four years of turmoil and taken a tough line

against dissent, has encouraged Mubarak supporters and upended the depiction of the revolution in the media, where activists are most often cast as troublemakers of foreign agents.

Another court cleared Mubarak, who will turn 87 in May, in the biggest case against him, dismissing in the end of November charges of responsibility for the killing of protesters during the 2011 uprising. Mean-

while, hundreds of the young activists and pro-change leaders from 2011 are either languishing in prison on charges of breaking a law against protests or have left the country.

The next steps for Mubarak are difficult to predict. El-Sissi may be happy to keep Mubarak and his two sons in a state of legal limbo where the ousted leader is neither outright freed or firmly convicted and punished—thus avoiding alienating either Mubarak's supporters or opponents.

El-Sissi, the former head of the military, has carefully distanced himself from Mubarak. After the court ruling dropping charges against Mubarak in November, el-Sissi lashed out at the former president in a private meeting that was leaked by local reporters. He said that during his nearly 30 year rule, Mubarak "wrecked the nation" and it would need another 30 years to repair. Publicly, he said the country "won't go back to the past" and ordered a review of the law

that caused the case to be dismissed on a technicality.

Nasser Amin, a judicial reform activist who also sits on the National Human Rights council, believes the political authorities in el-Sissi's Egypt will use all means to keep Mubarak and his sons in custody—if not serving sentences, then facing some sort of litigation.

"Despite all signs that things are going back to the past, letting Mubarak and his sons out is a different story. It means that all what happened in 2011 was a joke, and the current regime can't afford this and it is not in their interest either," Amin said.

Mubarak was ordered released once before, in July 2013, when his time of detention ran out amid ongoing trials. But the government stepped in and used its executive powers to keep Mubarak under house arrest. Only a month earlier, el-Sissi had led the military ouster of Islamist President Mohammed Morsi, elected after Mubarak's fall, and the government likely didn't want Mubarak's release to create the impression it was bringing back his autocracy.

As world watches Paris, Nigeria suffers its own attacks



A child, at rear, walks through the scene of an explosion in a mobile phone market in Potiskum, Nigeria, Monday Jan. 12, 2015.

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—Nigeria's president was among leaders who condemned last week's attack by Islamic extremists on the French satirical weekly Charlie Hebdo, yet his response to the slaughter of civilians by militants in his own country has been muted.

Some commentators criticized President Goodluck Jonathan's reticence about the violence in Nigeria's Baga town, and the lack of a broader international outcry on par with the reaction to the attacks in France. The slogan "I am

Baga"—a play on "I am Charlie," the expression of solidarity with the targeted French weekly—is now circulating on social media.

The global sympathy and the defiant rally in Paris that drew foreign leaders after the assaults that killed 17 people overshadowed the killing of hundreds and perhaps as many as 2,000 people in Baga, a northeastern town near Chad.

Jonathan, who has been touting his domestic record ahead of a re-election bid next month, was quick to express solidarity

with France.

"The President believes that the cowardly and ignoble attack by violent extremists is a monstrous assault on the right to freedom of expression," said a statement by his office the day after the attacks in France.

It did not release a similarly forceful statement about Baga. The attack there started on Jan. 3 and was another bloody marker in a murky, grinding conflict in which information is often scarce, the insurgency is seen by many as a local problem and violence is routine.



Mubarak

Environment

Alaska’s record-warm year in 2014 worries observers

By MARIA L. LA GANGA
LOS ANGELES TIMES

The biggest state in America, home to more ocean coastline than all others combined, has just set another record. This one, however, is nothing to cheer.

For the first time in recorded history, temperatures in Anchorage did not drop below zero once in an entire calendar year. In comparison, Alaska’s largest city had 14 days below zero in the 2013 calendar year and 32 days in 2012. The average is 29 days.

At midnight Dec. 31, Anchorage closed the book on its warmest year since 1926, according to the National Weather Service. The lowest temperature recorded in 2014 was zero degrees Fahrenheit on Feb. 11.

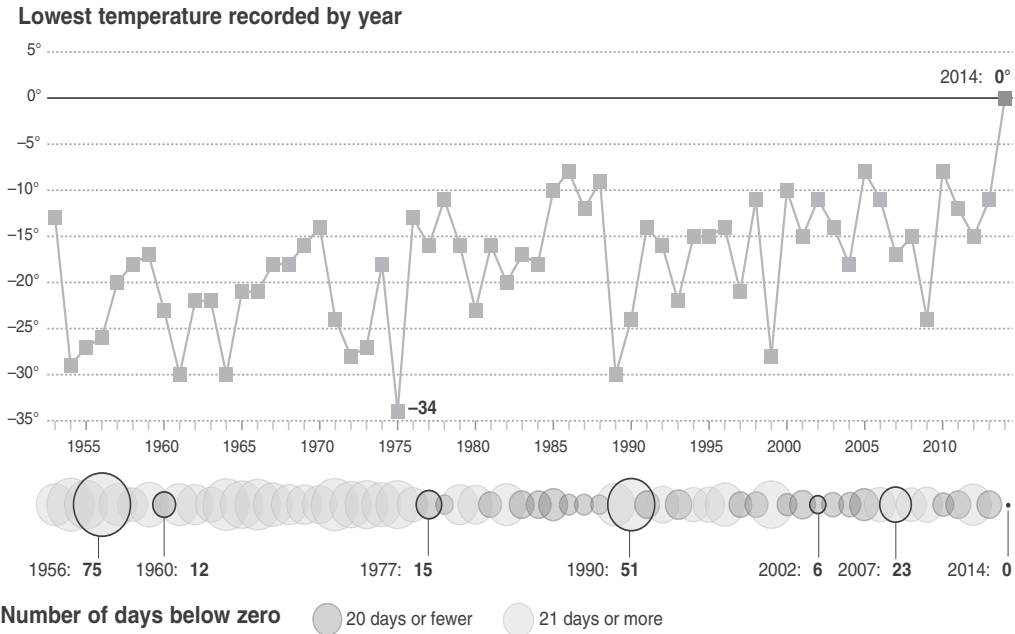
Sea ice has been disappearing. Polar bear populations have dropped. The state’s storied dog race was a musher’s mess, spurring headlines that fretted: “Warm weather, treacherous conditions—is the Iditarod in trouble?” The Bering Sea saw its warmest summer on record.

“I didn’t put my downhill skis on at all last winter, and at the moment I’m still hoping for this winter, but the prospects are not good so far,” said Henry Huntington, who lives in an Anchorage suburb and serves as senior officer for the Pew Charitable Trusts’ international Arctic program.

The Last Frontier didn’t exactly sweat through Death

Warm, for Alaska

Temperatures in Anchorage have set a new record: In 2014, the thermometer never dropped below zero. Historical temperatures are much lower.



Valley-style temperatures. Anchorage’s 2014 annual average was a chilly 40.6 degrees or so Fahrenheit, said Richard Thoman, climate science and services manager with the weather service in Fairbanks. Still, that was well above last year’s annual average temperature of 37 degrees.

Environmentalists, policy-makers and weather watchers are viewing the thermometer with concern.

“To me, the fact that Anchorage won’t dip below zero degrees in calendar year 2014 is just one more signal—as if we needed another one—of a rapidly changing climate,” said Andrew Hartsig, director of the Ocean Conservancy’s Arctic program.

Hartsig said Anchorage’s comparatively balmy weather is consistent with other long-term

trends, including diminishing summer sea ice and increasing sea surface temperatures.

“These are definitely red flags that are very consistent with climate change,” said Chris Krenz, senior scientist at Oceana, an international conservation group. “These are anomalies ... that show our climate system is off-kilter.”

James E. Overland, a research oceanographer with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, would agree with the off-kilter part. But he would add mysterious to the mix, too.

Overland argues that Alaska’s very cool heat wave is not evidence of climate change but rather the next stage in a long-term weather pattern that began with six years of warming in the Bering Sea and southern Alaska, followed by six cold years.

Activists sees public shift on dolphins in captivity

SOUTH MIAMI, Florida (AP)—Ric O’Barry feels the tide turning in his long quest to change the public’s mind about dolphins in captivity.

He went from being a dolphin trainer on the beloved “Flipper” TV series in the 1960s to a notorious activist featured in the 2009 documentary “The Cove,” which shows the killing of dolphins in Japan. His methods and protests against keeping dolphins on display often have been unwelcome

as dolphin shows are popular and lucrative.

But in the wake of “The Cove” and the documentary “Blackfish,” it seems O’Barry’s desire to see all dolphins swimming free may have gained mainstream traction.

The National Aquarium in Baltimore announced last year that it was exploring the feasibility of an oceanside sanctuary where its eight dolphins could retire.

Elected officials across the

U.S. also have taken up the issue of marine mammals, including dolphins. In November, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed a non-binding resolution stating that whales and dolphins have the right to be free from life in captivity, and the city council of Malibu, California, issued a proclamation in February proclaiming that all whales and dolphins swimming offshore have the “right to their own freedom and lives.”



In this Thursday, Sept. 25, 2014 photo, Ric O’Barry poses for a photograph at his home in Miami.

“Validation! I was right! I feel great about that,” O’Barry, 75, said recently at his South Miami bungalow. “Yeah, finally! It only took 50 years but they finally get it. They don’t

belong in captivity, they’re admitting that.”

O’Barry’s still considered an extremist, though, in an industry that questions why healthy dolphins with trainers who care for them would need sanctuary.

“I’m not sure when someone says a dolphin should retire that you’re taking care of their mental and physical needs,” said Rita Irwin, president-elect of the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks & Aquariums, which includes over 60 marine parks, zoos and aquariums worldwide.

California condors secretly mate, producing unexpected baby

BIG SUR, California (AP)—Two California condors have secretly mated in the woods of Northern California, thrilling wildlife biologists by producing unexpected offspring.

The San Francisco Chronicle reports (<http://bit.ly/1tSV56s>) that the breeding was only the third unobserved pairing of condors in the wild since 1997, when biologists began releasing the endangered birds in Big Sur.

The last 27 California condors left in the wild were captured and placed in a breeding program in 1987. The Big Sur flock came from that program.

The bird is already 9 months old. The parents raised the hatchling for many months before being detected by prying biologists.

Ventana Wildlife Society Senior Wildlife Biologist and Big Sur Condor Project Coordinator Joe Burnett said the surprise bird is a sign the flock is doing well.

In Celebration of Her New Life

†Lucinda Rosa Borja Roberto-Sablan

Born to life on October 22, 1959 and called to her Eternal rest at the age of 55 on January 9, 2015.

In Her New Life, She Now Joins Her:
Parents: †Andres Ada and †Maria Borja Roberto
Parents-in-law: †Vicente Atalig and †Carmen Manglona Sablan
Paternal Grandparents: †Juan Sablan / †Engracia Ada Roberto “Robat”
Maternal Grandparents: †Agueda Santos (Chungi / Lencho) and †Jose Castro Borja “Tuhu”
Sister: †Elizabeth Virginia Roberto Ordenez
Brothers-in-law: †Jose Manglona Sablan, †Martin M. Sablan
Paternal Aunts: †Rosa Sablan and †Ana Sablan Roberto
Maternal Aunts and Uncles: †Trinidad Borja / †Juan Atalig Deleon Guerrero, †Cresencia Borja / †Felix Cruz Villagomez, †Andalecio Santos Borja, †Margarita Santos Borja, †Manuel Miyasaki Babauta, †Carmen Borja / †Jesus DLG Ichihara, †Gabriella Santos Borja, †Ana Borja Roberto, †Teresita Borja / †Vicente C. Lizama

Her Memories Will Forever Live In the Hearts of Her:
Husband: **Crispin Manglona Sablan**
Children: **Christopher Roberto & Nicole C. Sablan** (Christian, Maria, Isabella and Adriana)
Crystal Roberto Sablan (Crispin Isaiah, Seth, Lucinda Amor)

Lucinda’s Siblings:
Joseph Borja Roberto
David Borja Roberto (*Dominic Palacios / Stephanie Samson [Sonjab, Dominic], Yerma Roberto/Robert Camacho – [Hayden, Mia], Ashley Boyer Roberto, David Boyer Roberto, Jr.*)
Andres Borja Roberto, Jr. / Dorothy Pangelinan Roberto (*Andrew, Joshua, Aiyisha, Austin, Jeremiah*)
Celina Borja Roberto / Franklin Reyes Babauta (*William – [Jacob, Elijah], Francine, Kolina, Franklin, Jr.*)
Raymond Borja Roberto / Zenaida Castro Javier (*Charay Sasamoto, Andrea, Nathaniel*)

Reared Sisters: Barbara DLG. McDuff, Julie Roberto Inos
Brother in Law: Bartholomew Ordenez (Gerard R. Indalecio / Lealynn Valdez – [Damian], Gemma Roberto Ordenez, Jaycee Roberto Ordenez, Arjay Ordenez)
Lucinda’s in-laws: Bert M. / Chechang Sanchez Sablan and children, Angie Sablan / Jerry Reyes and children, Juan M. / Bobbie Torres Sablan and children, Henry M. / Lulu Sablan and children, Fermina A. Sablan and children, Liana Sablan / Richard U. Hofsneider and children, Diego M. / Elaine Sablan and children

Godparents: Joaquin T. Salas and Doris S. Nuique
Godchildren: Nora Agulto Castro, Patrick Camacho Castro, Sean DLG. McDuff, Matthew Blanco, Jessica Castro Sonoda, Angel Aldan Demapan, Ayisha Pangelinan Roberto, Ken Lizama, Isabella Heras, Joseph Aldan, Lucy Ann Santos, Eddie Valdez, Eugene Louis F. Park, Phillip Roberto

Paternal Uncle: Felipe Ada / Ket Roberto
Maternal Aunts: Jacoba Borja / Carmelito (Lito) Asuncion, Primitiva Apatang Babauta

She will also be missed by numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Daily Mass of Intentions is being celebrated at 6:00AM at Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Night Rosary is being said at 7:00PM at Mt. Carmel Cathedral until Saturday, January 17, 2015.

On Tuesday, January 20, 2015 her remains will be escorted from Borja Funeral Services at 7:30AM to Mt. Carmel Cathedral for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00AM followed immediately by Interment Services at the Veteran’s Cemetery in Marpi, Saipan.

Thank you for your prayers,
Crispin M. Sablan and Children

Life & Style

'Transformers' sequel leads Razzies 'worst-of' list

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Transformers: Age of Extinction" is rolling out with the most nominations at this year's Golden Raspberry Awards.

The action sequel starring Mark Wahlberg alongside morphing robots led all films Tuesday with seven nominations, including worst picture, worst sequel, worst screenplay and worst screen combo.

"Transformers" is also up for worst director for Michael Bay, worst supporting actress for Nicola Peltz, and worst supporting actor for Kelsey Grammer, who was also recognized for his supporting parts in "The Expendables 3," "Legends of Oz" and "Think Like a Man Too."

The nominations were released to The Associated Press on Tuesday ahead of an official announcement on Wednesday.

This year's other worst picture nominees are "Kirk Cameron's Saving Christmas," "Left Behind," "The Legend of Hercules" and "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles."

The faith-based comedy "Saving Christmas" and the Kellan Lutz action flick "Legend of Hercules" both collected six nominations, including worst actor for Cameron and Lutz.

The nominees for worst screen combo are Cameron and his ego in "Saving Christmas"; Seth



AP
In this June 29, 2014 file photo, from left, actors Nicola Peltz, Mark Wahlberg, Li Bingbing, and Jack Reynor pose for photographers, during the European premiere of the film "Transformers: Age of Extinction," at Potsdamer Platz in Berlin.

MacFarlane and Charlize Theron in "A Million Ways To Die in the West"; any two robots, actors (or robotic actors) in "Transformers"; Cameron Diaz and Jason Segel in "Sex Tape"; and Lutz and either his abs, pecs or glutes in "Legend of Hercules."

The Razzies, which launched in 1980 as a spoof of Hollywood's awards season, added a new category this year called the redeemer award that lauds past Razzie honorees.

The inaugural redeemer award nominees are: Ben Af-

fleck for being praised for both "Argo" and "Gone Girl" after winning the worst actor trophy in 2004 for "Gigli," "Daredevil" and "Paycheck"; Jennifer Aniston for her Screen Actors Guild Award nomination for "Cake" following four Razzie nods;

Mike Myers for earning acclaim as the director of the documen-

tary "Supermensch" after winning three Razzies for "Love Guru" in 2008; six-time Razzie nominee Keanu Reeves for rebounding with "John Wick"; and "Twilight" star and former Razzie recipient Kristen Stewart for earning rave reviews for the indie film "Camp X-Ray."

The Razzies announcement came ahead of Thursday's Oscar nominations.

The winners of the 35th annual Razzies are selected by online votes from the organization's 757 members. They will be announced at Hollywood's Montalban Theater on Feb. 21, the night before the 87th annual Academy Awards.

While far less star-studded than other award shows, past Razzie recipients such as Halle Berry and Sandra Bullock have shown up in person to jokingly accept their gold spray-painted prizes.

Ex-prosecutor: Don't pardon Mark Wahlberg for racist attacks

BOSTON (AP)—A former state prosecutor who secured a civil rights injunction against a young Mark Wahlberg after he hurled rocks and racial epithets at black schoolchildren says he shouldn't be pardoned for attacks on two Asian men two years later.

Judith Beals, a former Massachusetts assistant attorney general, said Tuesday she believes in "forgiveness and reconciliation" but Wahlberg's request should be denied because he hasn't acknowledged the racial element of his crimes in documents he filed with the state last

November.

"That acknowledgment of the crime and that facing of history is absolutely critical in the issuing of a pardon," she said.

Wahlberg, who became a rapper and then an A-list actor

nominated for an Oscar, acknowledged in his pardon application that he was high on marijuana and drugs at the time. He said he's dedicated himself to becoming a better person as an adult.

"I've been looking for re-



Wahlberg

demption (since) the day I woke up and realized that I done some horrific things and was on a path of self-destruction, as well as causing a lot of people harm," Wahlberg, 43, said in a December in-

terview. "When I decided to go and petition for a pardon, it wasn't based on the things I accomplished in my career. It's been the things I've been able to do in my personal life: giving back to the community and helping kids, especially

inner-city kids and at-risk youth and kids growing up in that same situation."

Wahlberg wants to be officially cleared of a 1988 incident in which he hit a Vietnamese man in the head with a wooden stick while trying to steal alcohol from a convenience store. Wahlberg, then 16, punched another Vietnamese man in the face while trying to avoid police.

He ended up being convicted as an adult of assault and other charges and was sentenced to three months in jail. He was released after about 45 days.

Ann Curry to exit NBC News after a quarter-century

NEW YORK (AP)—Longtime NBC News correspondent and anchor Ann Curry is leaving her full-time job with the network after a quarter-century.

But she will still be seen on NBC platforms, the company said Tuesday in announcing a partnership with her and the media venture she will launch, to be "seeded" by NBCUniversal.

The arrangement will allow Curry to report on any platform or network, in or out of NBC News. Her startup will generate content of national and global importance with a multi-platform distribution ap-

proach, NBC said.

"This is about reaching for the edge of the future in journalism," Curry said. "I am excited about working to become a valuable link between traditional media and what is to come."

"We're proud to support Ann in her new venture, and we look forward to more of her exceptional storytelling," said Pat Fili-Krushel, chairman of NBCUniversal News Group. "She is committed to uncovering critical issues, humanizing them, and ultimately helping viewers understand and connect."

Curry, 58, had been with

NBC since 1990, joining as a Chicago-based correspondent.

Among her many roles, she anchored "NBC News at Sunrise" for six years and anchored "Dateline NBC."

She also established herself as a globe-trotting correspondent, reporting from such hotspots as Sudan to report on the violence and ethnic cleansing, and to Albania and Macedonia, where she reported on the humanitarian refugee crisis caused by the genocide in Kosovo.

Her exit comes 2 1/2 years after she was ousted from the anchor desk of the "Today" show after

just a year, during which questions persisted about her comfort level alongside Matt Lauer.

Being "Today" co-anchor was a job Curry had apprenticed for during 14 years as the program's news anchor. She was passed over for co-anchor in 2006, when Meredith Vieira took the prize after Katie Couric left for CBS.

On a tense farewell show in June 2012, Curry fought back tears, saying, "This is not as I expected to ever leave this couch," and adding, "I'm sorry I couldn't carry the ball over the finish line but, man, I did try."

SIDEBAR

A look at this year's Razzie nominees

A look at the 35th annual Razzie nominations:

■ **Worst picture:** "Kirk Cameron's Saving Christmas"; "Left Behind"; "The Legend of Hercules"; "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles"; "Transformers: Age of Extinction."

■ **Worst actor:** Nicolas Cage, "Left Behind"; Kirk Cameron, "Kirk Cameron's Saving Christmas"; Kellan Lutz, "The Legend of Hercules"; Seth MacFarlane, "A Million Ways To Die in the West"; Adam Sandler, "Blended."

■ **Worst actress:** Drew Barrymore, "Blended"; Cameron Diaz, "The Other Woman"; "Sex Tape"; Melissa McCarthy, "Tammy"; Charlize Theron, "A Million Ways to Die in the West"; Gaia Weiss, "The Legend of Hercules."

■ **Razzie redeemer award:** Ben Affleck; Jennifer Aniston; Mike Myers; Keanu Reeves; Kristen Stewart.

■ **Worst supporting actress:** Cameron Diaz, "Annie"; Megan Fox, "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles"; Nicola Peltz, "Transformers: Age of Extinction"; Brigitte Ridenour, "Kirk Cameron's Saving Christmas"; Susan Sarandon, "Tammy."

■ **Worst supporting actor:** Mel Gibson, "The Expendables 3"; Kelsey Grammer, "The Expendables 3"; "Leg-

ends of Oz," "Think Like a Man Too," "Transformers: Age of Extinction"; Shaquille O'Neal, "Blended"; Arnold Schwarzenegger, "The Expendables 3"; Kiefer Sutherland, "Pompeii."

■ **Worst director:** Michael Bay, "Transformers: Age of Extinction"; Darren Doane, "Kirk Cameron's Saving Christmas"; Renny Harlin, "The Legend of Hercules"; Jonathan Liebesman, "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles"; Seth MacFarlane, "A Million Ways To Die in the West."

■ **Worst screen combo:** Kirk Cameron and his ego, "Saving Christmas"; Seth MacFarlane and Charlize Theron, "A Million Ways To Die in the West"; any two robots, actors (or robotic actors), "Transformers"; Cameron Diaz and Jason Segel, "Sex Tape"; Kellan Lutz and either his abs, pecs or glutes, "Legend of Hercules."

■ **Worst screenplay:** "Kirk Cameron's Saving Christmas"; "Left Behind"; "Sex Tape"; "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles"; "Transformers: Age of Extinction."

■ **Worst remake, rip-off or sequel:** "Annie"; "Atlas Shrugged: Who Is John Galt?"; "The Legend of Hercules"; "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles."

Politician slams Obama for letting daughters listen to Beyoncé

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—Former Arkansas Gov. and possible presidential candidate Mike Huckabee has accused President Barack Obama and his wife, Michelle, of double standards in parenting, saying in an interview published Tuesday that the first family shelters its daughters from some things but allows them to listen to the music of Beyoncé.

The sharp rhetoric signals that, should he run for the Republican presidential nomination, Huckabee, a favorite of conservative Christians, would make cultural and social issues the cornerstones of his campaign.

While promoting his new book, the former Baptist pastor told People magazine, “I don’t understand how on one hand they can be such doting parents and so careful about the intake of everything—how much broccoli they eat and where

they go to school ... and yet they don’t see anything that might not be suitable” in Beyoncé’s lyrics. He also said Beyoncé’s choreography is “best left for the privacy of her bedroom.”

In his book, Huckabee describes the Grammy Award-winning Beyoncé’s lyrics as «obnoxious and toxic mental poison.» He also accuses Beyoncé’s husband, rapper Jay-Z, of “exploiting his wife” like a “pimp.”

The first lady’s office declined to comment on Huckabee’s comments.

During a 2012, \$40,000-per-ticket fundraiser in New York, the president thanked Beyoncé and Jay-Z for their friendship.

“Beyoncé could not be a better role model for my girls,” Obama said.

Beyoncé sang at Barack Obama’s second inauguration, as well as Mrs. Obama’s 50th birthday party at the White House.



AP
In this Jan. 4, 2015 file photo, President Barack Obama, first lady Michelle Obama, right, and their daughter Malia Obama, walk on the South Lawn as they arrive of the White House in Washington from a family vacation in Hawaii.

VH1 bringing ‘Sorority Sisters’ season to a quick end

LOS ANGELES (AP)—VH1 is pushing the debut season of “Sorority Sisters” to a quick end after facing criticism for the reality show’s depiction of black sorority members.

The channel said that the last three of 10 episodes will air back-to-back Friday. The move is intended to satisfy viewer interest by bringing the cast’s stories full circle, VH1 said.

A special episode, “Sorority Sisters The Dialogue,” which featured the women discussing why they joined the show and the controversy it provoked, aired last week.

The response on social media indicated viewers wanted to see the complete series, the channel said.

A decision on whether “Sorority Sisters” will continue has yet to be made, VH1 said in a statement Tuesday.

The show drew protests even before airing, both when it was announced last summer and when a promotional video was released online. The video showcased typical reality show fireworks, with insults and tears among its cast of sorority members who graduated from Atlanta-area colleges.

The backlash included an online petition that drew more than 40,000 supporters demanding the project be abandoned. Lawrence Ross, one of the organizers, has said the show reduces the worthy legacy of African-American sororities to a “perverse caricature.”

Several sponsors responded to the protest by pulling their ads from the show.

Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority suspended two cast members from separate chapters after the VH1 series began airing. The organization gave no public reason for the move.

Early Oscars given to sound, projection technology engineers

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A sound engineer and the inventor of digital micromirror technology will receive Oscar statuettes when the film academy’s Scientific and Technical Awards are presented next month.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences an-

nounced Tuesday that sound engineer David W. Gray and scientist Larry Hornbeck will be recognized among 58 honorees at a Feb. 7 ceremony celebrating the “sciences” part of the organization’s name.

Awards will be given to inventors of camera rigs and

digital projection technology, software developers and lens creators.

The ceremony at the Beverly Wilshire hotel in Beverly Hills, California, won’t be televised, but some portions will be included in the Academy Awards telecast on Feb. 22.

Yahoo sets March debut date for sitcom ‘Community’

PASADENA, Calif. (AP)—The axed NBC sitcom “Community” will make its Yahoo debut in March.

Yahoo announced Tuesday that the sitcom will begin its online life with a pair of episodes. Then it will air once weekly.

Last June, Yahoo, Sony Pictures Television and series creator Dan Harmon reached a deal for a 13-episode sixth season. Harmon is serving as executive producer.

“Community” is about a group of friends who come together at a community col-

lege with an iffy pedigree. The comedy has loyal followers, but too few of them for NBC to keep it.

Yahoo credited passionate “Community” fans with keeping the show alive. The comedy starring Joel McHale will debut March 17.

Refunds offered for Bill Cosby’s Denver shows

DENVER (AP)—Ticketmaster is offering refunds for two Bill Cosby shows scheduled in Denver, but organizers say the performances will go on.

KUSA-TV reported Tuesday that more than 3,000 tickets have been sold to the shows, which are set to take place in downtown Denver on Saturday

amid planned protests against the iconic comedian.

Cosby is facing growing sexual assault allegations from more than 15 women, with some claims dating back decades. He has denied the allegations through his lawyer and has never been charged.

Chuck Morris, president

of AEG Live, the promotion company hosting Cosby, says he understands the concerns some may have regarding Cosby’s visit. But he adds that because the comedian hasn’t been charged with a crime, he has a moral obligation to allow the shows to happen.

Billy Joel, Mumford & Sons, Kendrick Lamar set for Bonnaroo

NEW YORK (AP)—The 2015 Bonnaroo Music and Arts Festival will feature a star-studded lineup including Billy Joel, Mumford & Sons and Kendrick Lamar.

Robert Plant, Deadmau5, and Florence + the Machine will also perform during the four-

day event that kicks off June 11 in Manchester, Tennessee.

Tickets go on sale Saturday. More than 125 bands and 20 comedians will perform across 12 stages.

Earth, Wind & Fire, My Morning Jacket, Bassnectar, Al-

abama Shakes, Childish Gambino, Hozier and Gary Clark Jr. will also perform.

Kanye West headlined the Bonnaroo festival last year. More performers for this year’s festival will be announced at a later date.

Drunk driver can’t forgive himself for taking a life

DEAR ABBY: I am 42 years old and a divorced father of two. Earlier this year, I caused a fatal drunk driving accident. Once I came to and realized what I had done, I accepted responsibility and pled guilty to my crime. I have never before been in trouble with the authorities.

I believe God has forgiven me. I know my extremely supportive family and friends have also forgiven me. But how do I forgive myself? I think about it and cry daily for my victim and that family. I pray they will find some comfort that I am behind bars.

I plan to volunteer and use my time to help others as I have done in the past, once I am free. I also plan to tell my story to as many people as will listen to help stop the senseless act of driving under the influence.

I can never, and will never, forget what I have done. But I know I must forgive myself in order to move forward and start helping others. Any advice or suggestions you can give to help me work on forgiveness while I am in here would be greatly appreciated.

UNFORGIVEN INMATE IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR UNFORGIVEN: Something you can do while you are incarcerated would be to start a dialogue with the clergyman of your faith who ministers to the prison population.

Because re-entry into the larger community can be stressful, if substance abuse counseling is available, join a group. It might help you avoid falling back into old habits upon your release.

DEAR ABBY: I am the owner of an art gallery and often host shows with a reception to introduce artists. This generates interest in their artworks among patrons purchasing a piece for their home or to add to their collection. We provide hors d’oeuvres and beverages for our clients and potential clients.

Several individuals come to our receptions and heap food on their plates, often filling them a second time and sometimes a third. One woman has carried food out, saying it was for her husband who was waiting outside. (He must have been hiding, because I watched her get into her car alone and drive off.)

Abby, these people rarely even look at the art, let alone buy anything. They just eat and leave. My gallery is in a fairly small community, so I don’t want to be rude, but how can I tactfully tell these people to ease on down the road?

NOT RUNNING A SOUP KITCHEN

DEAR NOT: Have an employee monitor the food display, and when someone is spotted taking food outside or pigging

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



out, have the employee quietly intervene. As for individuals who come to your gallery only to eat—and by now you know who they are—greet them politely and suggest quietly that because it is clear that your taste in art and theirs is not the same, it would be better if they shopped elsewhere.

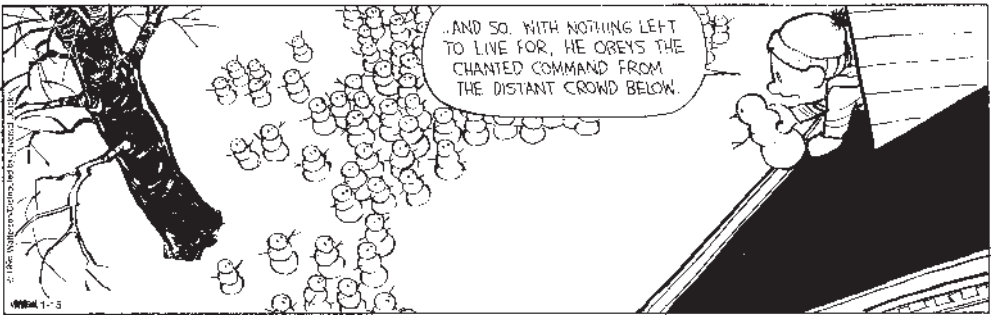
P.S. And if attendance to these openings is by invitation, simply stop inviting the offenders.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order “How to Have a Lovely Wedding.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



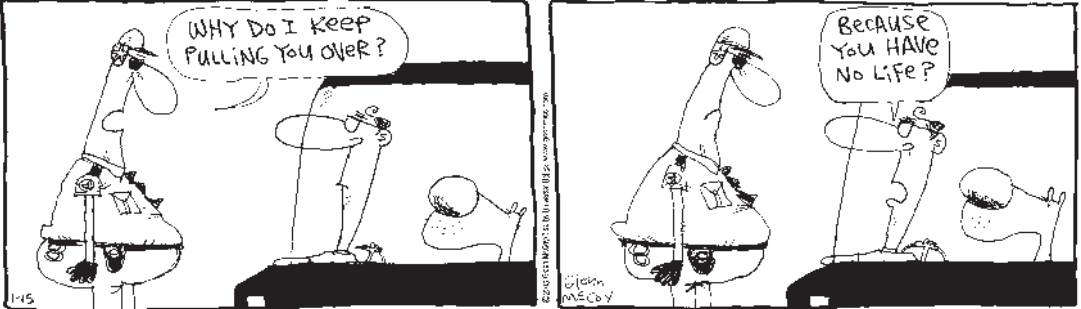
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Homer's cry

4 Knocks

8 Warp crosser

12 Actress Gardner

13 Winkled fruit

14 Bread spread

15 Henry Hudson's ship

17 Addict

18 Dandy

19 Use up

21 Talk nonsense

24 Marry

25 Altar constellation

26 Wapiti

28 Bonfire residue

32 "Casa-blanca" role

34 A mere handful

36 Recording

37 Snatches

39 Talk

41 Michele of "Glee"

42 Second person

44 Internet browser?

46 Clam or snail

50 Tailoring concern

51 Wood-wind instrument

52 Small-of-stature sort

56 Not so much

57 Writer Wiesel

58 Soccer star Hamm

59 Easter buys

60 51-Across need

61 Freddy's street

2 Eventual aves

3 Gridiron position

4 Make unkempt

5 Past

6 Trudge

7 Tendon

8 Relative of "dost"

9 Differently

10 Pentameter parts

11 Rent

16 "Gift of the Magi"

20 Shell game need

21 Olympic gymnast Conner

22 Met melody

23 Will Ferrell movie

27 Frat party item

29 Break in the game

30 Duel tool

31 Burn somewhat

33 High-tech type of car entry

35 Existed

38 Old French coin

40 Polished

43 Leading man?

45 Wardrobe malfunction

46 Penicillin base

47 Do what you're told

48 Come in second

49 Hardy cabbage

53 Whopper

54 Zero

55 Highland hat

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterdays answer 1-15

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Drew Brees, 36; Regina King, 44; Chad Lowe, 47; Mario Van Peebles, 58.

Happy Birthday: Keep your emotions in check. Productivity will be jeopardized if you mix business with pleasure. It's important to compartmentalize every step of the way this year. You have plenty to gain if you are frank and display knowledge, experience and solutions. Taking control will be easy if you are prepared to present what you have to offer. Your numbers are 2, 14, 22, 25, 31, 39, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Make a contribution that will draw attention to what you have to offer and benefit a cause, group or industry to which you belong. Don't let finances or emotions stand between you and what or who you want. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Make plans to do something active or supportive of a group you belong to. Don't let anyone talk you into spending more than you can afford. Focus on what you can do for others reasonably and sincerely. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Stick to the truth and avoid being singled out for gossiping or meddling. Put more effort into the relationships that are important to you personally or professionally. Don't promise more than what you can afford or deliver. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You have what it takes to make things happen. Use your imagination to come up with solu-

tions that will help you bring about exciting new changes. A day trip to a destination that will inspire you should be considered. *****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Ask questions and leave nothing to the imagination. Precision and accuracy will count when it comes to details and getting what you want. Love is in the stars, and securing your place in someone's heart will lead to future plans. **

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Participate in events that interest you, and you will make new friends. Put your heart into your plans and take care of any problems you think might stand in your way. A change in a contract must be looked at carefully. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let little aggravations at home bother you. Get out with friends or do something that will make you feel good about who you are, how you look or what you have to offer. Romance is highlighted, but don't overspend to impress. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A tug of war is likely to unfold if you are dealing with someone who doesn't see things your way. Be creative in your approach, use reverse psychology and be willing to give a little in order to get what you want. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Stick to the truth. Taking a laidback approach to life will help you reach your goals without conflict or additional stress. A romantic relationship will alter your lifestyle. ***

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Step outside your comfort zone. Using your skills, knowledge and experience will lead to greater opportunities. A less conservative approach to what you do will turn heads and give you the boost you need to seal a deal. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Sit tight and let things unfold naturally. Be prepared to answer questions and to console those facing conflict or loss. Express your ideas openly and it will make a difference to your reputation as well as your position. Gains can be made. **

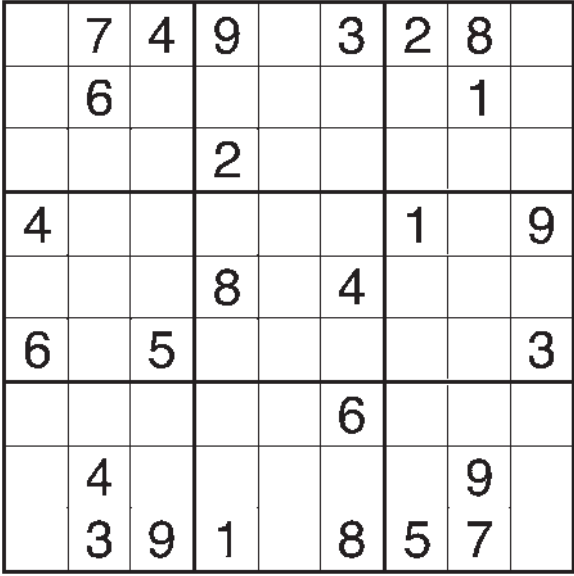
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't mislead someone in order to get approval. You have to abide by the rules and stick to the truth if you want to get ahead and withhold your reputation. Your options are good if you do your best. *****

Birthday Baby: You see, you think and you do. You are curious but conservative. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter](http://twitter.com/eugenialast)/[facebook](http://facebook.com/eugenialast)/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

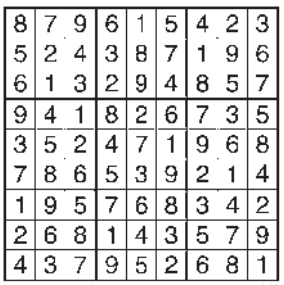


Difficulty Level ***

1/15

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ***

1/15

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

TIFFANY & CO.

Solution: 4 letters



© 2015 Universal Jclick. www.wonderword.com. Join us on Facebook. 1/15
Accessories, Bag, Bezel, Case, Charles, Collection, Cuts, Details, Earrings, Elsa, Embrace, Enchant, Engagement, Etiole, Exquisite, Gold, Grace, Harmony, Heart, Jewelry, John, Leather, Lewis, Links, Metro, Morganite, Necklace, Novo, Oval, Paloma, Pave, Pear, Pens, Picasso, Pink, Princess, Purse, Silver, Soleste, Solitaire, Sterling, Tags, Watches, Young
Yesterday's Answer: Shellfish
To purchase the WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

1-Commercial Cleaner. \$6.05/hour. 3 years exp. Able to operate buffing machine. Send resume to P.O. Box 506281 CK, Saipan MP 96950

6Radiology Technologist. \$10.00 per hour. Call Precision Medical Imaging, LLC. at Telephone no.: 233-6000


APARTMENT FOR RENT

1 Bedroom, 1 Bath, 1 Kitchen, Double Closet & AC. Fully Concrete with Security Bars and Deadbolt. Safe quiet area. Ahgaga Rd. Pagago. \$325/month including water. Call: 256-1219 or 783-5448.



Visit us at 865 S. Marine Dr., Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104 Tamuning, Guam 96913
Tel: (671) 648-4131 • Fax: (671) 648-8282
Email: mayfguam@twite.net • www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily

SaipanTribune



Realty Management Services

Fina Sisu Terraces
Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **\$250/month.**
2-BR, 1-BTH. **\$350-\$550/month.** Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.

Ocean View Terraces
(Navy Hill)) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$600/month**

Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$550/month**

Hilltop Condominium*
(San Vicente) Unit approximately 1,024sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 2BTH Apt with private balcony & majestic view. **\$700/month**
Luxury 1BR & 1BTH approximately 600 sq/ft **\$500/month**

***Wi-Fi & nighttime security excluded**

FEATURES:

- Fully Furnished
- Back-up Generator
- Air-conditioning in all rooms
- FREE WiFi
- Laundry Area
- Nighttime Security
- Ample Parking
- 24hr water

Please visit our website at www.saipan-properties.com
Call for an appointment 235-6527/8.



Business Consultant (Interpreter)
Salary: \$1,200.00 - \$1,400.00 per month
Minimum of 5 years' experience.
Must be able to interpret and translate for both Japanese and English.
Interested applicants please send resume to martind28@yahoo.co.jp
No later than January 17th.
JOB MARKET USA CORPORATION



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
1 – PROJECT CIVIL WORKS TECH

Ability to apply the theory and principles of civil engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction. College degree required with (10) years minimum work related experience. Provide technical assistance in the management, supervision, coordination, and execution of engineering and construction duties and maintenance of building structures and facilities including but not limited to buildings, power, plants, detention facilities, roads, drainage, airport buildings and infrastructure. Develop construction drawings, design, and plans and prepare cost estimates. Confer with staff engineer in keeping the project on budget. Inspect project site and evaluate contractor work to detect design malfunctions and ensure conformance to design specifications and applicable codes. Prepare reports and document project activities and data. Computer literate with knowledge in computer aided design (CAD) Software.

Interested qualified applicants must submit a complete application or resume and latest police clearance via e-mail at saipan@aicconstruction.com or mail to AIC Marianas, Inc. PMB 564 PPP Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950
Closing date: 01/16/2015



FIESTA
Resort & SPA
SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company


is inviting qualified U.S. Citizens to apply for the following vacant position

(1) Guest Relations Manager – China Market
Qualification: Minimum education Associate's Degree preferable in Sales & Marketing or Tourism. Minimum experience of 2 years in a related field/similar role or in a high volume hospitality environment at supervisory level. Advance or native Chinese Mandarin language speaker and writer. Ability to work flexible hours including nights, weekends and holidays. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills are essential.

Interested applicants may obtain and submit application form from our security office located at the South Wing. To be considered, all applications must be submitted no later than January 20, 2015. Background check and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

CLICK IT OR TICKET DAY & NIGHT



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 15-007

Opening Date: January 09, 2015
Closing Date: January 23, 2015

Trades Assistant (Lineperson)

Duties: Under the direct supervision of the Power Division Manager or designee. Assists with installations, repairs and general maintenance in assigned service area; operates motorized vehicles, equipment machinery, and hand and power tools. Performs routine and preventative maintenance on equipment, vehicles, systems and/or infrastructure; performs basic inspections; and conducts basic troubleshooting of issues. Responds to trouble calls as needed. Prepares job site for work including gathering and setting up materials and supplies, and setting work safety barriers for protection and to direct traffic flow away from work site. Gathers, cleans and returns equipment, materials and supplies used. Cleans and maintains work site after project or repair work is complete. Monitors equipment; takes readings and collects data; documents equipment readings; prepares and submits data and work reports. Performs inventory spot checks to ensure adequate materials and supplies are available for daily maintenance activities. Servicing equipment by disassembling, assembling, cleaning and calibrating; Assisting with equipment inspections; Monitoring gauges on engine generators; Reading meters and collecting data; Monitor and maintain pump fuel; Operating incinerators; Operating oil and water separator pump; Servicing and preparing oil filters; Responding to customer calls; Maintaining grounds, trimming trees and removing obstacles; Fabricating materials for required parts. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION: Power (Transmission & Distribution), Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$16,742.00 per annum.
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.
POSITION(S): Two (2)

Minimum Requirements: High School Diploma or GED or ABE Program AS Diploma. Knowledge of: Customer service principles; Basic mathematical concepts; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology. **Skills in:** Providing customer service; Reading maps and drawings; Operating heavy and light equipment machinery, hand and power tools required of assigned area; Adhering to safety procedures and safe work practices; Prioritizing tasks and managing time for efficiency; Identifying issues and solving problems; Providing attention to detail; Taking equipment readings and recording data; Maintaining activity logs and reports; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants may be tested. Subject to pre-employment drug test.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

WHATZIT Solution: Half-volley

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS


Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS


Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



www.facebook.com/dingbatgames

WHATZIT? © 2015 www.whatit.com
D.Sales and by Universal UC, Inc.



Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper.

Call 235-NEWS



Preview of the Saipan Tribune newspaper showing various articles and sections like 'Opinion', 'Focus', and 'Campus Life'.

Jets close to hiring Bowles as coach



NEW YORK (AP)—The New York Jets are close to an agreement with Arizona Cardinals defensive coordinator Todd Bowles to make him their head coach, according to two people with knowledge of the negotiations.

Bowles told ESPN in a text that he was taking the job, but the people told The Associated Press that no agreement had been completed as of late Tuesday night.

The people spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the deal had not been finalized.

"It's heading there," one of the people said, and it could be completed as early as Wednesday morning.

A few hours after hiring Mike Maccagnan as their general manager, the Jets were closing in on signing the 51-year-old Bowles to replace Rex Ryan, who was fired, along with GM John Idzik, on Dec. 29 after six seasons. Bowles, a highly sought candidate after leading Arizona's defense the last two seasons, had a second interview Tuesday with owner Woody Johnson and consultants Charley Casserly and Ron Wolf—along with Maccagnan—and apparently impressed the Jets enough to move forward.

The team canceled a scheduled interview with Carolina defensive coordinator Sean McDermott that was set for Wednesday. Bowles also called off a second meeting with the Atlanta Falcons for their head coaching vacancy that was scheduled for Wednesday.

It was believed that Seattle defensive coordinator Dan Quinn was the front-runner for the job, but teams aren't allowed to meet with him again until the Seahawks are eliminated or during the bye week



In this July 16, 2014, file photo, Arizona Cardinals defensive coordinator Todd Bowles, front right, watches NFL football training camp along with defensive players Deone Bucannon (36), Trevardo Williams (48), Jonathan Brown (45), Kenny Demens (54) and Glenn Carson (56) in Glendale, Ariz. The New York Jets are close to an agreement with Bowles to make him their head coach, according to two people with knowledge of the negotiations.

AP

SIDEBAR

Garrett, Marinelli set to return to Cowboys

IRVING, Texas (AP)—Dallas coach Jason Garrett fielded questions about his shaky job security for two years before breaking through with the first trip to the playoffs for the Cowboys since 2009.

Now he's all but guaranteed to have the second-longest coaching tenure for the storied franchise behind Tom Landry, the only coach the Cowboys knew for their first 29 years.

Garrett has a new five-year contract, and defensive coordinator Rod Marinelli is also coming back on a three-year deal, a person with knowledge of both agreements told The Associated Press on Tuesday. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the team had yet to announce the deals.

Garrett will make about \$6 million annually—roughly \$30 million in total value—after just completing his first contract, at four years and \$20 million.

The Cowboys broke through a three-year rut of 8-8 seasons that ended with losses that kept them out of the playoffs by winning the NFC East at 12-4. Dallas beat Detroit in the wild-card round before last weekend's 26-21 divisional round loss at Green Bay.

"I really believe that we've built something here that we're all proud of and we're all excited about taking the next step with this football team," Garrett said earlier Tuesday, before the deals were settled.

"I think we have the right kind of guys on our staff, the

right kind of guys on our team and we're excited about the opportunities and the challenges ahead."

The 48-year-old Garrett, a former backup on Dallas' Super Bowl-winning teams of the 1990s, is 42-32 in four-plus seasons and needs two victories to tie his old coach, Jimmy Johnson, for second on the franchise wins list. Landry is third all-time in the NFL with 250 victories.

When he finishes the first year of his new contract, Garrett will have coached the Cowboys longer than Johnson, who won consecutive Super Bowls after the 1992 and '93 seasons. Landry also won two titles.

Marinelli replaced Monte Kiffin as defensive coordinator before this season—a year

after they came in together to install a four-man defensive front after Dallas spent nearly a decade in a 3-4 formation. The Cowboys improved from the league's worst defense to 19th along with being second in takeaways.

There were suggestions that he might join the staff of good friend Lovie Smith in Tampa Bay. They were together in Chicago before Smith was fired and Marinelli picked a demotion to defensive line coach with the Cowboys over staying with the Bears as defensive coordinator.

Dallas was competitive defensively despite the loss of linebacker Sean Lee to a knee injury in the first offseason practice and constant change at that position because of other injuries.

before the Super Bowl. Instead of waiting for Quinn, the Jets brought Bowles back and worked to sign him to a deal.

It will be a homecoming of sorts for Bowles, who is a native of Elizabeth, New Jersey. He also served as the Jets' defensive backs coach under then-coach Al Groh during the 2000 season.

Bowles played defensive back for eight seasons in the NFL, including starting for Washington in the Super Bowl in 1988.

With the Jets, Bowles will inherit a solid defensive front seven - which was always Ryan's primary focus—with rising stars in defensive linemen Muhammad Wilkerson and Sheldon Richardson. The secondary, however, needs a major overhaul.

After several stops as a coach at the college and pro levels, Bowles was hired as the Miami Dolphins' assistant head coach and secondary coach from 2008-11. He served as the team's interim head coach for the final three games of the 2011 season, going 2-1 after Tony Sparano was fired.

Bowles went to Philadelphia in 2012 as the Eagles' secondary coach, but was elevated to defensive coordinator when the team dismissed Juan Castillo. After that season, Bowles was hired as Arizona's defensive coordinator.

Fans welcome back Buckeyes after winning title



COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—Urban Meyer and the

national champion Ohio State football team returned home to a rousing welcome on Tuesday.

About 75 fans greeted the Buckeyes when they arrived at a Columbus airport, fresh off a 42-20 victory over Oregon at the inaugural championship game of the College Football Playoff on Monday night in Dallas.

Meyer, the second coach to win national titles at two schools, walked over to the crowd inside the airport, shook hands and signed a few autographs. His players, including championship-game MVP Ezekiel Elliott, followed with high-fives for the fans.

The players outside, some wearing the championship

hats handed out at the game, slapped hands with fans who were bundled up in scarlet and gray hats and coats in 20-degree weather at Rickenbacker International Airport.

Tracy Stasiulewicz, of Ashville, was in tears at the airport, just like she was at the end of Monday night's game.

"We know their names. We've seen them play the whole time," she said. "To me, it's very emotional."

The Buckeyes, who defied naysayers to claim the national title after losing two starting quarterbacks to injuries, earned the final spot in the playoff. They upset Alabama and Oregon behind quarterback Cardale Jones, who was the Buckeyes' third-stringer when fall camp opened.

"You'll never see anything

like that again," said Ron Chapman, a longtime Buckeyes fan from Pataskala.

"It's a great story to tell children about how to overcome adversity," added his wife, Judy.

Some of the players signed a few autographs at the airport before boarding buses for a short ride back to campus, where about 100 people were waiting to meet the team.

Plans for a formal celebration to honor the champions are still in the works, the university said Tuesday. The coaches and players didn't make any remarks after returning to Columbus.

Meanwhile, while Urban Meyer was doing most of the talking, Cardale Jones owned the room.

Ohio State's rising star quarterback was all big grins, silly smirks, rolling eyes and mis-

chievous glances Tuesday, the day after he helped the Buckeyes roll Oregon 42-20 to win the first College Football Playoff national championship.

Jones said that he's not ready for the NFL. But after just three college starts, the 22-year-old, third-year sophomore is in a unique position. Should he stay or should he go?

"Cardale's brand right now has never been stronger, might never be stronger again in his life," Ohio State coach Urban Meyer said.

On the other hand, the 6-foot-5, 250-pounder from Cleveland is still a raw—though enticing—prospect.

"I'm amazed at the speed and quickness he has for a guy that weighs over 250 pounds," said former NFL executive Gil Brandt, who now works as an

analyst for the NFL Network.

"But his passes, some are on the money, some are low, some are high and some are wide."

Jones is eligible for early entry to the NFL draft because he is at more than three years removed from graduating high school. The deadline for underclassmen to declare for the draft is Thursday.

Brandt said Jones has the talent to be selected, probably somewhere in the back half of the seven-round draft, but he would be better served developmentally by another year playing college football.

But there is the rub: Ohio State could have three star quarterbacks on the roster next season with Jones, J.T. Barrett and Braxton Miller. Jones is not guaranteed to be the starter.

It's a strange position for Jones to find himself. Back in August, he was the Buckeyes' third-stringer. But after Miller

hurt his shoulder in the pre-season and Barrett broke his ankle against Michigan, it was up to Jones to lead Ohio State the rest of the way.

In three games against Wisconsin (Big Ten championship), Alabama (Sugar Bowl semifinal) and Oregon, Jones was 46 of 75 for 742 yards passing and five touchdowns.

"I mean, it's very odd," Jones said of going from Meyer's doghouse to considering an NFL career in such a short time. "You know, I'm going to be starting three games in three years, and you know, guys play their whole career to have that buildup and have that motivation to play in the NFL."

"In my personal opinion, I'm not ready for that level yet. I mean, like Coach Meyer said, it's a conversation me and him will have later down the road. But to me right now, it's far out."

Suns spoil LeBron's return with win over Cavs

PHOENIX (AP)—LeBron James rejoined the Cavaliers and brought a lot of excitement with him.

Just not quite enough for a Cleveland victory. James scored 33 points in his return from a two-week layoff but couldn't prevent the Cavaliers from going down to their sixth straight loss, 107-100 to the Phoenix Suns on Tuesday night. James displayed his array of booming dunks, acrobatic drives and 3-point shots.

"I couldn't make those moves two weeks ago," he said. "For me to come back and feel like myself again is pretty cool."

Markieff Morris scored a career-high 35 points on 15-of-21 shooting for the Suns, who outscored the Cavs 11-3 over the last 3:31.

Morris refused to talk to reporters afterward, walking away from them in the locker room.

The Cavaliers rallied from a 19-point, third-quarter deficit to go ahead in the fourth, the first of eight lead changes down the stretch.

J.R. Smith, who joined the Cavaliers during James' absence, scored 29, going 8 of 14 on 3-pointers.

James, who took time off to rest his sore left foot and lower back, made 11 of 18 shots, 6 of 8 in the second half.

"I thought he was terrific," Cleveland coach David Blatt

said. "It is not new for anybody. I just thought he laid it out there. That wasn't an easy thing because he hasn't played a competitive game in eight games."

The Cavaliers were 1-7 in James' absence and have lost nine of 10 overall to fall below .500 at 19-20.

But at least they have their superstar back.

"I thought I was going to run out of gas," James said. "Yesterday at practice my lungs were burning. I was able to get my second wind today."

The Suns, opening an eight-game homestand, have won 11 of 15.

Kyrie Irving, who averages 21 points, scored nine of 4-of-14 shooting for the Cavs.

Cleveland was down 80-61 with 3:26 to play in the third quarter, then finished the period with an 18-5 flourish.

Mavericks 108, Kings 104

In Sacramento, Monta Ellis scored six of his 28 points in overtime and added 10 assists, and the Dallas Mavericks beat the Sacramento Kings 108-104 on Tuesday night.

The Mavericks rallied from a 10-point deficit in the fourth quarter to avoid their first four-game losing streak of the season. Dallas was coming off two humbling losses to Detroit (118-105) and the Clippers (120-100).

DeMarcus Cousins, who fouled out late in the fourth quarter, had 32 points, 16 re-

Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James (23) drives against Phoenix Suns' Alex Len during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2015, in Phoenix.



bounds and nine assists for the Kings. Darren Collison had 18 points and seven rebounds.

Rajon Rondo broke out of a scoring slump with 21 points and seven assists for Dallas, which rallied from a 24-point deficit to beat the Kings on Nov. 11.

Heat 78, Lakers 75

In Los Angeles, Mario Chalmers scored nine of his 19 points in the fourth quarter, Hassan Whiteside added 15 points and the Miami Heat completed a Staples Center sweep with a 78-75 victory over the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday night.

Chris Bosh scored eight points on 4-of-17 shooting for the Heat, who followed up their surprise victory over the Clippers two days ago by winning

an ugly game against the Lakers despite losing Dwyane Wade to a strained left hamstring late in the first half.

Kobe Bryant scored 12 points on 3-of-19 shooting in his return to the Lakers' lineup after missing three of the last four games to rest.

Bryant's 3-pointer with 31 seconds to play trimmed Miami's lead to three points, but he missed a potential tying 3-pointer with 2 seconds left.

Warriors 116, Jazz 105

In Salt Lake City, Stephen Curry scored 27 points and ignited a decisive third-quarter run to lead the Golden State Warriors to a 116-105 victory over the Utah Jazz on Tuesday night.

Draymond Green scored 15 points while Harrison Barnes and

Klay Thompson added 12 apiece to lift the Warriors (30-5) to their franchise-best seventh consecutive victory by double figures.

Derrick Favors had 22 points and 11 rebounds for the Jazz, who could not overcome blistering third-quarter shooting by Golden State. Utah allowed 44 points on 16-of-26 shooting in that period.

Gordon Hayward scored 17 points while Enes Kanter and Rudy Gobert each added a double-double for Utah. Kanter finished with 13 points and 10 rebounds, while Gobert had 16 points, 11 rebounds and three blocked shots off the bench.

Timberwolves 110, Pacers 101

In Indianapolis, Mo Williams scored a career-high 52 points,

most in the NBA this season, and the Minnesota Timberwolves snapped a 15-game losing streak with a 110-101 victory over the Indiana Pacers on Tuesday night.

Williams made six 3-pointers, including one that gave Minnesota a 102-96 lead. Andrew Wiggins added 20 points and Gorgui Dieng had 10 for the Timberwolves (6-31), who won for the first time since beating Portland 90-82 on Dec. 10.

C.J. Miles had 22 points and C.J. Watson added 17 for the Pacers (15-25), who have lost three of four.

Williams surpassed the 46 points scored this season by both Carmelo Anthony and Pau Gasol, which had been tops in the NBA.

Wizards 101, Spurs 93

In Washington, John Wall broke yet another personal 0-for-forever streak, this one against an entire team, scoring 25 points with eight assists in Washington's win that gave him his first taste of success against the reigning NBA champs.

Wall had been 0-7 against the Spurs since he was drafted No. 1 overall in 2010, and the Wizards as a whole had not beaten San Antonio since Nov. 12, 2005 — a streak of 17 games.

Tim Duncan had 11 points and 12 rebounds, and Tony Parker scored 14 points for the Spurs.

Hawks 105, 76ers 87

In Philadelphia, Al Horford had his first career triple-double, scoring 21 points with 10 rebounds and 10 assists to lead Atlanta to its ninth straight win.

The Hawks easily thumped the Sixers even while resting 60 percent of their starting lineup. Leading scorer Jeff Teague, Paul Millsap and DeMarre Carroll all sat out with the team in a stretch of four games in five nights.

The Hawks have won 23 of 25 and also won their ninth straight road game. They are in first place this late in the season for the first time since they won the East in 1993-94.

Michael Carter-Williams scored 20 points for the Sixers.

S I D E B A R

Nets open to offers, but say no sale of the team is imminent

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)—Mikhail Prokhorov is interested in hearing from potential buyers for the Brooklyn Nets, but a spokesperson for the Russian billionaire said Tuesday no sale is imminent.

"As we have said for many months, ownership is always open to listening to offers — that's just good business," Ellen Pinchuk said in a statement. "There is nothing imminent in terms of a sale of any stake in the team."

That came in response to a report earlier Tuesday from Bloomberg News, citing two people with direct knowledge of the matter, that Prokhorov had retained Evercore Partners to sell the team.

Prokhorov bought 80 percent of the team and 45 percent of Barclays Center in Brooklyn in 2010. He said earlier this season he was willing to listen to offers for a minority share of the club but wouldn't sell his majority stake.

He had set a goal of winning a championship within five years, but the Nets have gotten nowhere close despite the NBA's highest payroll. They are 16-22 this season,

losers of six straight, a season after ESPN.com reported that the Nets' basketball operations department lost \$144 million.

Prokhorov downplayed those losses when he last met with reporters before the Nets' home opener in November. But he would have little problem making all of it back and more if he did sell at a time when franchise values are soaring, topped by the \$2 billion Steve Ballmer paid for the Los Angeles Clippers last summer.

Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban said he had just returned from a family vacation and didn't know what was happening with the Nets, but that owning an NBA team was difficult.

"It could be the ruble, it could be political issues (in Russia)," he said in Sacramento before the Mavericks played the Kings.

"But it's tough and it's not an easy business. We all come in making promises of what we are going to do. Well, it took me 12 years to do what I said I was going to do," Cuban added. "It's just not easy and sometimes it gets frustrating."

Royals give manager Yost extension through 2016

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Once the new year rolled around, Ned Yost turned his attention to the upcoming season, the new pieces that the Kansas City Royals brought in and the possibilities for new lineups.

He made the prospect of a contract extension seem almost like an afterthought.

"I think we're in great shape headed into this year," Yost said Tuesday, shortly after the club announced their manager's one-year boost through the 2016 season.

"We came as close as you

can to winning a world championship last year," he said, "and when you don't do it, it leaves a taste in your mouth. It's something you strive to do, and I think everyone in that locker room will tell you they want to finish this thing off."

Yost became the Royals' manager in May 2010 and presided over a massive rebuilding effort that culminated with the end of a 29-year playoff drought this past season. The Royals took San Francisco to the seventh game of the World Series, leaving the tying run on third base with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning, before their season finally ended.

With most of the major pieces of that team back, combined with free-agent acquisitions such as Alex Rios, Kendrys Morales and Edinson Volquez, hopes in Kansas City are higher than ever that the long-downtrodden franchise will be able to compete for the postseason again.

"As we all know, baseball is a very tough business," Royals general manager Dayton Moore said. "You're always striving for organizational harmony, and we have our key leaders— in this case the manager—signed through the next two years, it helps to create that harmony."

The longest-tenured manager

in club history, Yost will soon become its winningest. He already has 373 victories, trailing only Dick Howser (404) and Whitey Herzog (410), and should eclipse two of the franchise's iconic names by the time summer rolls around.

Yost's contract was due to expire after the upcoming season, but there was little question that he would receive an extension. He has a close relationship with Moore dating to their days in the Braves organization, and Yost's ability to guide a young and unproven lineup to its first AL pennant since the Reagan administration only strengthened his organizational standing.

MHS teams, SIS undefeated in MISO v'ball

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Marianas High School's varsity and junior varsity teams along with Saipan International School V are undefeated after the second day of action in the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Girls Volleyball League last Tuesday at the MHS Gymnasium.

MHS varsity scored an easy 25-5, 25-19, 15-6 decision over their counterparts from Kagman High School to follow up its two wins over the varsity squads of Grace Christian Academy and Mt. Carmel School last week.

MHS V is on top of the 11-team field with a 3-0 card, followed by the 2-0 slates of MHS JV and SIS V.

MHS JV notched its second straight win after disposing

of SIS JV, 25-14, 25-11, 15-9, while SIS V kept Kagman winless after three games with a quick 25-12, 25-19, 15-2 demolition.

Mt. Carmel improved its record to 2-1 following a 25-12, 25-18, 15-6 decision over Saipan Southern High School V, while SSHS JV and GCA V also defeated their respective rivals to bounce back from opening game losses.

Saipan Southern's JV squad escaped with a 25-18, 25-20, 15-11 triumph over MCS JV, while GCA V dealt SSHS V its third straight loss, 25-13, 25-11, 15-12, to even their records to 1-1.

In other news, league organizers are reminding all coaches not to leave until all of their players have left the MHS campus.

"I know that we're all hungry and tired by the end of the games, but the safety of our student-athletes must always comes first," said Northern

Mariana Islands Volleyball Association representative Toni Yamada.

She added that since most of the players, coaches, and

fans are already adults they should be responsible enough to pick up their thrash.

"I find it quite disgusting when there is trash left be-

hind. I hope it doesn't come to a point where I'd have to station someone at the doors to make sure nothing comes into the gym."

Blas gets Master Player tag



Team Mix's Leo Blas earned the Master Player tag last week in the on-going

Rocball league at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Blas scored a backcourt play kee during their game against GVD to get the recognition, which is given to a player who made all the scoring opportunities in Rocball. The sport gives points to an ace, xunk, jam, kee, and goal.

Blas is only the second player to make that feat this season after the Veterans' J.R. Gechig did it late last month during their match against the Teachers.

Meanwhile, Oba Squirt

threaded the needle to beat VGD in two overtimes.

Oba Squirt avoided being juiced out by Oba Squirt after winning the fourth set, 12-10. A juiced-out victory is given to a team that had the lead in regulation and also won the last set. VCD was on top after four sets, 47-33, prevailing in the first and third set, 13-2 and 13-6, but since Oba Squirt took the fourth set besides winning the second, 13-11, the match went into overtime.

In the extended period, the leading GVD needed to win only once, while Oba Squirt must beat its foe twice. Oba Squirt went on to live for another day after ruling the first overtime, 9-1, and completed the comeback with an 11-6 victory in the second extension. **(Roselyn B. Monroyo)**

Masters Golf Classic on Saturday

The Grand Masters Golf Classic fundraising tournament will be held this Saturday at the Mariana Country Club in Marpi.

Emon Lodge No. 179 of Free and Accepted Masons is organizing the tournament in collaboration with Mariana Resort & Spa and the Fil-Taga Golfers Association.

The green fee is \$85 and registration starts at 7am with an 8am teeoff time.

Proceeds from the tournament will go to Karidat to help the foundation in their various charity works.

Cash prizes of \$500, \$300 and \$200 await the Top 3 winners of the one-day tournament.

For more information, call or text William Retardo at 9890782; Larry Pascual at 2871233; Danny Banez at 9892544 or Jun Eslaban at 9898771. **(Jon Perez)**

KNIGHTS

From Page 28

combined for 10 points.

In the first game, June Alipio scattered 20 points, while JP Taitano had 12 to lead Saipan Southern's junior varsity team to a 57-32 thrashing of Kagman High School 9.

The Mantas slowly break the game wide open in the second period where they limited the Ayuyus' point production to four to enter the halftime break with a 26-12 lead.

SSHS just cruised from there and enjoyed several 20-point leads, which Kagman failed to bring down to a respectable number.

Meanwhile, in last Monday's results, defending champion MHS varsity recorded its second blowout

win following a 79-34 drubbing of Kagman.

D-Jay Ong scored 16 points to lead three other Dolphins who hit double digits. Prince Factor had 13, while Kobe Mendoza and Michael Espinosa tallied 11 and 10, respectively. Ong and company were gunning for their third straight win last night as they faced SSHS varsity at press time.

In other matches last Monday, Kagman's junior varsity team coasted to a 57-41 triumph over SSHS 9, while Grace Christian Academy banked on Lee Dong Ha's 17 markers in a 46-29 crushing of Saipan International School.

WEDNESDAY First Game

SSHS JV 57-Alipio 20, Tai-

tano 12, Muna 9, Aque 7, Diyco 5, Anderson 4.

KHS 9 32-Ogumoro 10, Arceo 9, Mendiola 5, Babauta 4, Agulto 2, Rabauliman 2.

Scoring by quarters: 12-8, 26-12, 47-26, 57-32.

Second Game

MCS 59-Camacho 12, Gamab 9, Toves 8, Son 7, Tkel 7, Deleon Guerrero 5, Hahn 5, Amog 3, Santos 3.

MBA 15-Song 5, Jung 3, Takayama 3, Christian 2, Ryoo 2.

Scoring by quarters: 17-6, 46-10, 53-12, 59-15.

MONDAY First Game

KHS JV 57-Jones 17, Tenoerio 14, Castro 13, Quitugua Jr. 9, Aguon 2, Maniego 2.

SSHS 9 41-Malasarte 13,

Siech 12, Cobacha 7, Bondoc 4, Diyco 3, Ejercito 2.

Scoring by quarters: 13-10, 17-20, 34-26, 57-41

Second Game

MHS V 79-Ong 16, Factor 13, Mendoza 11, Espinosa 10, Benavente 8, De Leon 7, Malonzo 7, Manalili 7.

KHS 34-Palino 13, Sakisat 11, Paran 4, Faisao 2, Racadio 2, Torres 2.

Scoring by quarters: 32-16, 49-21, 65-30, 79-34.

Third Game

GCA 46-Lee 17, Libut 11, W. Yu 9, Hong 4, Daproza 2, H. Yu 2, Aldan 1.

SIS 29-A. Cepeda 7, Kim 7, Joyner 5, C. Cepeda 3, Ramsey 2, Smith 2, Xu 2, Johnson 1.

Scoring by quarters: 11-6, 20-13, 33-23, 46-29.

DREAM

From Page 28

ings.

Dream Team is in second place in the division, tying idle Ol'Aces with their identical 3-1 cards, following the former's 68-50 rout of Sun Palace Hotel. Sun Palace is still winless in four games. 670 Sonics (2-2), Kagman Risers (2-2), and Rollers 3 (0-4) complete the division.

Dream Team, which had its two-game winning run snapped by the Sonics last week, regained its bearing quickly by dominating Sun Palace.

Ignacio Borja and Brandkiet Castro towed Dream Team to the 18-point win after scoring more than half of the squad's total production. Borja fired 22 points, while Castro chipped in 18.

Borja started Dream Team's early assault, drilling 6 of the team's first 10 points, while Castro began doing the damage on Sun Palace's defense midway in that opening half, as he nailed 10 straight markers and finished the period with 12. Borja wrapped up the first half with 14 points, making 8 of Dream Team's last 10 to give

his squad a 35-26 advantage.

Despite Borja and Castro's impressive scoring in the first half, Sun Palace managed to stay in the game and faced only a single-digit deficit, thanks to the combined efforts of Ankie Manalili, Aaron Pamintuan, and John Capuyon. The trio teamed up for 18 points to keep Dream Team within striking distance.

However, in the second half, Dream Team pulled away, as Castro and Borja continued to pepper Sun Palace with successive baskets and their teammates also helped out, while only Capuyon

delivered for the losing squad.

In the first game, Rollers 1 established an early double-digit spread, 40-29, and was never threatened.

Rollers 1 coasted to victory despite the absence of Kobe Mendoza, as Prince Factor was there to fill-in the shoes for the former.

Factor scored a game-high 23 points and got enough support from Mike Arciaga and Mike Espinosa, who registered 16 markers apiece.

Espinosa recorded 14 of his total markers in the first half, which he ended with back-to-

back triples to lift Rollers 1 to the 11-point halftime advantage.

Rollers 1 stretched the lead in the second half as Factor and Arciaga found their rhythm after a so-so performance in the first half. Factor, who was held to 4 points in the opening 20 minutes of play, had 19 in the second half, while Arciaga added 10, 6 of them came from beyond the arc.

First Game

Rollers 1 86-Factor 23, Arciaga 16, Espinosa 16, Fidelino 6, De Leon 6, Iglecias 5, Malonzo 5, Camacho 2, Vivero 2.

Rollers 2 69-Santos 14, Abo-bo 10, Cruz 9, Dancoc 8, Rios 4, Alipio 4, Deocares 2, Kwon 2, Babauta 2.

Scoring by halves: 40-29, 86-69.

Second Game

Dream Team 68-I. Borja 22, Castro 18, Kwon 7, Darag, S. Deleon Guerrero 4, Lieto 4, Dean. Deleon Guerrero 2, Francisco 2, Devin Deleon Guerrero 2.

Sun Palace 50-Capuyon 15, Pamintuan 11, Manalili 9, Edralin 5, Benavente 3, Omengkar 3.

Scoring by halves: 35-26, 68-50.

CFL Youth Football League Finals

PHOTOS By JON PEREZ



Zander Tkel, center, receives the most valuable player trophy from Rep. Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind.-Saipan), left, and CFLA president John Blanco during the awards ceremony for the Commonwealth Football League Association 2014 Youth Football League last Saturday at the CPA Airport Field.



The Southern Thunder's Matthem Reyes, left, runs for 17 yards.



Players and coaching staff of the Southern Thunder pose for a group photo after their game against the Eastern Lightning. The Thunder dropped a 30-14 decision against the Lightning.



The Eastern Lightning's Zander Tkel, 3, prepares to tackle the Southern Thunder's N-Nes Siech, 7.



The Southern Thunder's Brent Azarcon tackles the Eastern Lightning's Gregorio Sablan.



The Southern Thunder's Norman Cabrera, 11, scores the extra two points late in the game.



Eastern Lightning quarterback Zander Tkel, left, looks for an open teammate, while Damien Camacho provides the block against the Southern Thunder's Anthony Tenorio.



The Southern Thunder's Brent Azarcon, 12, runs, while a teammate tries to prevent the Eastern Lightning's Ryuta Onuki from getting close to him.



The Eastern Lightning's Donavin Ada, 18, slows down after reaching the endzone for a 32-yard touchdown run, while Kimo Angailen, 95, and Gregorio Sablan look on.



The Southern Thunder's Daniel A. Calvo, 38, tries to stop the Eastern Lightning's Kimo Angailen from getting the first down.

Jets close to hiring Bowles as coach

PAGE 24



Saipan Tribune Sports



Suns spoil LeBron's return with win over Cavs

PAGE 25

28 THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2015

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Knights blow past Stormz

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Mt. Carmel School capitalized on every Marianas Baptist Academy turnover in cruising to a 59-15 victory yesterday in the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Boys Basketball League at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

It was Mt. Carmel's first win after dropping a 68-54 decision against Saipan Southern High School last Friday.

The Knights pulled away early in the match behind Ganjo Gamab's three straight 3-pointers—the only baskets he made in the entire game—to enter the second period enjoying a 17-6 spread.

MCS was hardly threatened after that and while it scored in bunches, MBA was mediocre on the other end.

The Stormz would have an awful shooting from the floor if stats were recorded in the league.

They issued a lot of wayward passes, committed forced or hurried shots, and piled up turnovers that helped the Knights' cause.



William Camacho led MCS' balanced scoring with 12 points while Gamab no longer scored after hitting three straight 3-pointers in the first quarter for his 9 markers. Mark Toves finished with 8, while Son Jung Hyun and Zander Tkel added 7 each.

No MBA player hit double digits with Song Ki Boon ending up with 5, while Jung Young Jin, Toshio Takayama, Christian and Ryoo Young

See KNIGHTS on Page 26



JON PEREZ

Marianas Baptist Academy's Jeremiah Kim, left, and Kong Seong Ryon, right, attempt to block the shot of Mt. Carmel School's Anthony Deleon Guerrero during their game in the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Boys Basketball League yesterday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Dream Team, Rollers 1 notch easy wins

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Dream Team and Rollers 1

bagged easy wins in their separate games in the boys U19 division of the 2014 Tan Holdings Basketball Classic last



Tuesday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Rollers 1 was pitted against sister team Rollers 2 and cruised to an 86-69 victory.

The win was Rollers 1's fourth in as many games, keeping the squad's hold to the top spot in the eight-team field, while Rollers 2 fell to an even 2-2 record to place at the bottom half of the team stand-

See DREAM on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Dream Team's Dixon Kwon drives against two Kagman Risers' defenders during an earlier game in the boys U19 division of the 2014 Tan Holdings Badminton Classic at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

29 register for NMIFA D license course

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association will kick off its long list of activities for 2015

with a D license course for coaches this weekend.

NMIFA technical director and CNMI National Men's Team coach

Kiyoshi Sekiguchi will conduct the course with the help of Saipan Soccer



See NMIFA on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Jerish Angeles, seen here watching two participants perform drills during a coaching clinic held late last year at the William S. Reyes Elementary School, will assist NMIFA technical director Kiyoshi Sekiguchi in conducting a D license course this weekend at the Koblerville Elementary School.